

**Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey
Reconnaissance Survey Final Report
of**

Knox County, Nebraska

prepared for

Nebraska State Historical Society

State Historic Preservation Office

by

Save America's Heritage

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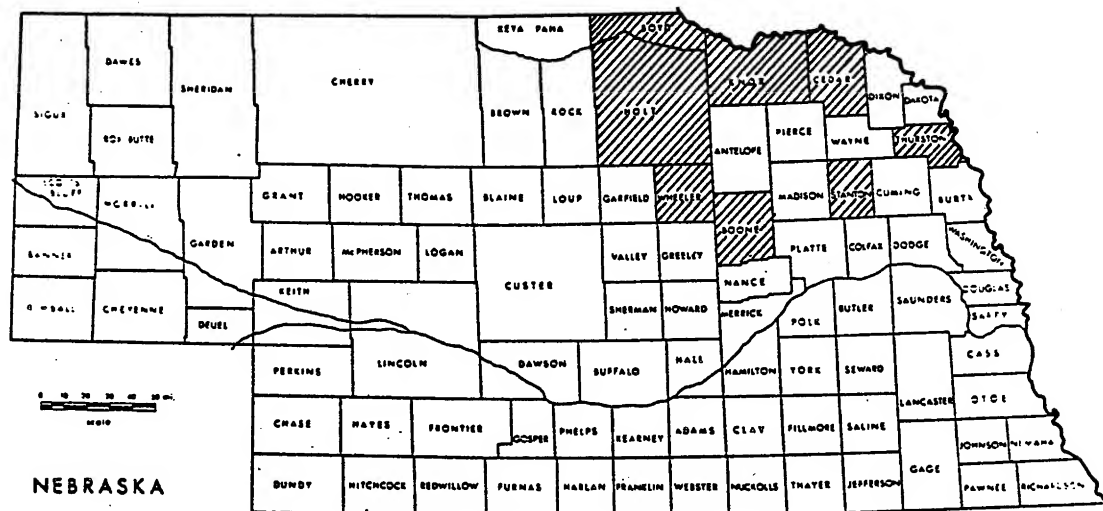
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INTRODUCTION

In 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act was passed by the 89th United States Congress and subsequently signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. With this Act, the Secretary of the Interior was called upon to expand and maintain a national register of historic places and give maximum encouragement to state governments to develop statewide historic preservation programs of their own. The Act recognized that one of the prerequisites for an effective national preservation program was the identification of historic resources across the country through comprehensive statewide surveys. Thus, state historic preservation offices were made responsible under the National Historic Preservation Act for decisions concerning the preservation of historic properties in their states.

The manifestation of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act for Nebraska came in 1967 when state legislation directed the Nebraska State Historical Society to oversee the preservation of historical properties and conduct a comprehensive statewide historic survey. For this, the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NeHBS) was formed and is conducted by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO) as a part of the Nebraska State Historical Society. The Nebraska Historic Building Survey is an ongoing statewide study designed to identify and evaluate properties within a selected area to determine whether they may be of historic, architectural, archeological, or cultural significance. The Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office serves as the central repository for the collected information and becomes the focal point for preservation planning decisions.

Starting with a limited survey of 125 sites, the NeHBS has now documented approximately 32,000 properties and completed preliminary fieldwork in over half of Nebraska's 93 counties. The latest effort of the NeSHPO to document historic resources is the completion of the Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey.



Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey Area

Save America's Heritage was selected by the NeSHPO and engaged in a contractual agreement to conduct the Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey. This survey consists of the completion of preliminary fieldwork in eight northeast Nebraska counties. These counties are Boyd, Holt, Wheeler, Boone, Knox, Cedar, Thurston, and Stanton. The survey of these counties was initiated in September of 1987 and was completed in June of 1988. With the completion of the eight-county project, northeast Nebraska is the first region of the state to be completed under the NeSHPO's recently stated five-year plan targeting preliminary statewide coverage for 1991-92.

The primary objective of the survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in the northeast Nebraska region. The effort to document properties contributing to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture produces information which not only serves as a resource in preservation management, but also expresses a genuine concern for the history of the Great Plains built environment.

In addition to this, there are several other objectives which enhance both the importance of information generated by the survey and the importance of the survey itself. First among these is the concept of establishing the setting of Nebraska's multi-contextual historic architecture. Each historic building survey performed by the NeSHPO generates information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background which future survey information can be evaluated with. Secondly, it was the objective of the historic building survey to identify specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the multi-context setting. Further objectives of the northeast Nebraska survey included the identification of specific building types, the identification of construction methods which related to or were unique to Nebraska's historic built environment, the identification of sites worthy of National Register listing, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement, building technologies, and architectural images.

Preservation Biases

It is Save America's Heritage belief that people, and the places in which they live, are the raw materials of history. A community, its inhabitants and its development over an extended period of time are proper subjects for our contemplation, for it is through such studies that we gain a more sympathetic comprehension of the present.

The public mention of a "historic building survey" often fails to produce a collective image or understanding. A strong social awareness towards preserving our built environment does exist in the rehabilitation of aged urban districts, but the notion of recording historical structures as a preservation activity remains a publicly obscure concept. Fortunately, this obscurity is due to a lack of awareness rather than a lack of genuine concern. Communicating the importance of this activity as a documentation of our Great Plains history cannot be stressed enough.

Furthermore, it is also the opinion of Save America's Heritage that such surveys are a necessary tool in the recording of Great Plains settlement. The demise of Nebraska's rural architecture is directly

linked to the decline of the rural-based population. In the year 1900, 76.3% of Nebraska's population was found in rural towns or on the farms.¹ However, by 1980 the rural-based population has dropped nearly 40 percentage points to the current figure of 37.1% (see Table 1).

Table 1. Total Population.

Nebraska		Selected Years	
Year	Population	Percent of Total	
		Urban	Rural
1900	1,066,300	23.7	76.3
1910	1,192,214	26.1	73.9
1920	1,296,372	31.3	68.7
1930	1,377,963	35.3	64.7
1940	1,315,834	39.1	60.9
1950	1,325,510	46.9	53.1
1960	1,411,921	54.3	45.7
1970	1,485,333	61.5	38.5
1980	1,569,825	62.9	37.1

¹Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Population, 1980.

The affect on the historic built environment has been devastating. The number of houses now exceeds the demand and the older perhaps less appealing buildings are not re-inhabited. The buildings then deteriorate and are either dismantled or collapse. Consequently, there exists an increasing decline in the "pool" of historic building resources. Compounding the demise of these rural resources is the current decline of the agricultural economy. The prospect of farming as a profitable future for the next generations is now less desirable. This, in turn, contributes to the decreasing rural population and re-inhabitation of existing historic buildings. This is exemplified by the fact that 42.5% (97 of 228) of all farmsteads documented by the survey in Knox County consisted of either abandoned farms or farmhouses.

The enumeration of social changes affecting historic resources is endless. It is clear, however, that the result of these changes coupled with the diminishing affects of time substantiate the need for historic

building surveys. It is through such surveys that we not only record the built settlement of Nebraska, but reach a fuller understanding of our present world.

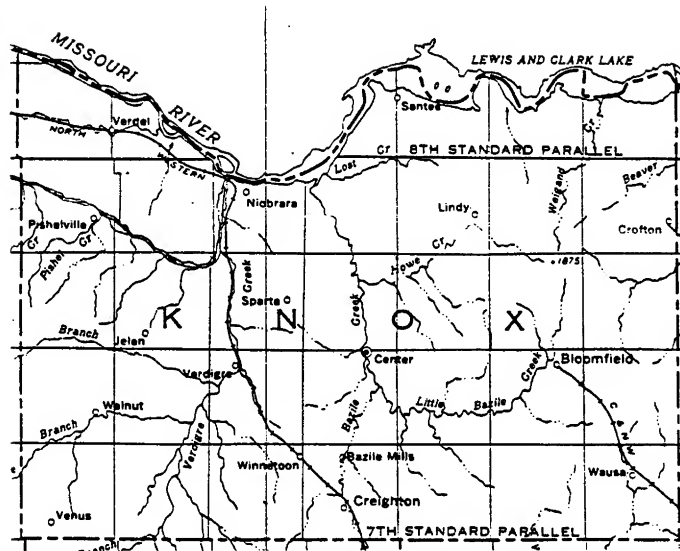
Numerical Summary of Knox County Reconnaissance Survey

<u>Knox County</u>	<u>Total properties</u>	<u>Contributing buildings</u>	<u>Contributing structures</u>	<u>Contributing objects</u>	<u>Contributing sites</u>
KX00: Rural	311 (43)	1,173 (43)	142	69	11
KX01: Bazile Mills	0	0	0	0	0
KX02: Bloomfield	97 (8)	164 (8)	0	0	0
KX03: Center	16	22	1	0	0
KX04: Creighton	125 (9)	185 (9)	2	1	0
KX05: Crofton	53 (20)	75 (20)	0	1	0
KX07: Lindy	4	4	0	0	0
KX08: Niobrara	*	*	*	*	*
KX09: Pishelville	*	*	*	*	*
KX10: Santee	4 (3)	3 (3)	0	0	1
KX11: Sparta	2 (2)	2 (2)	0	0	0
KX12: Venus	3 (1)	6 (1)	1	1	0
KX13: Verdel	29	45	1	0	0
KX14: Verdigre	90 (29)	138 (29)	4	1	0
KX15: Walnut	2 (1)	9 (1)	2	0	0
KX16: Wausa	119 (6)	192 (6)	0	0	0
KX17: Winnetoon	<u>17 (1)</u>	<u>21 (1)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	872 (123)	2,039 (123)	152	73	12

(): Numbers appearing in parentheses indicate the number of properties previously surveyed by the NeSHPO.

*: Communities not included in this project.

HISTORIC OVERVIEW



Physical Description

Knox County is located in northeast Nebraska. It is bounded by the Missouri River on the north, Cedar County on the east, Pierce and Antelope Counties on the south, and Holt County on the west. The county is nearly rectangular in shape with an irregular northern boundary due to the Missouri River. Knox County covers an area of approximately 1,119 square miles.

Approximately 60% of the county is covered by loess hills which are located in the southeastern part of the county. This soil type is composed of silt and clay which is well able to retain moisture and plant nutrients needed by row crops.

The lands in the western section of the county are known as the "Holt Table" and comprise approximately 12% of the county land area. In this area, the loessial mantle has been eroded thus exposing the underlying

sand-plain deposits. The soils in this area vary depending upon the mix of each soil type in a particular locality.

Along the northern edge of the county along the Missouri are the Pierre plains and hills. These comprise approximately 18% of the county land area. These lands are some of the roughest in the county but also include some lands which are undulating hills. A thin layer of loessial soils can be found on some of this more even land.

The fertile alluvial lands along the streams and rivers of the county account for a small percentage of the land area. These narrow strips vary in width from one-eighth to nearly two miles in width in some areas.

The rivers and creeks of the county provide ample drainage. Much of the drainage flows northward to the Missouri River. A portion flows eastward to the Missouri River through the Niobrara River and Ponca Creek. A small portion of southeast Knox County is drained southward by the Elkhorn River.

The climate is typical of northeast Nebraska and well suited to grain and livestock production. The area receives approximately 24 inches of precipitation annually, about three-fourths of which is received during the growing season April through September.

A luxuriant growth of prairie grasses with heavy stands of timber along the major rivers and streams were characteristic of the county prior to white settlement.

Original Inhabitants

At the time of first contact with whites, the Ponca Indians were living in the area which is now Knox County. They were a semi-sedentary tribe like many others which lived on the eastern Great Plains and depended on both horticulture and hunting for subsistence. Occupying an important position on the Missouri River, early traders found it advantageous to retain friendly relations with them.

The Na'nza Ponca Fort Site near Verdel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This fortified village was occupied ca. 1790-1800 and is one of the few known Ponca villages prior to the reservation period. At the time of occupation the Ponca were actively engaged in

trading activities while depending on hunting and horticulture for subsistence.

In 1789, Juan Baptiste Munier was reportedly one of the first whites to encounter the Ponca living at the mouth of the Niobrara River. Lewis and Clark encountered the Ponca in 1804 and reported their population as quite small. It has been documented that several famous persons such as George Catlin and Prince Maximilian of Wied were among the military men, explorers, traders, artists, and ethnographers who visited Ponca villages (Henning, p. 8).

The Ponca signed a treaty with the U.S. government in 1858. This treaty restricted them to reservation lands, the boundaries of which were altered several times. Being a sedentary population, the Ponca were easy targets for raids by the Sioux and were intermittently harassed. The harassment continued until the Ponca were forcibly removed to Indian Territory in Oklahoma in 1877. Ponca land remained in the hands of the Sioux until 1890 when it was opened to settlement by whites.

Settlement of Nebraska

The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 opened the territory of what is now Nebraska to settlement by whites. Nebraska was organized as a state in 1867. The general directions of settlement proceeded from the southeast corner of the state to the north along the Missouri River and westward along the Platte Valley. There was early interest in the Knox County area due to its location on the Missouri River. Niobrara, the original county seat, is one of the oldest towns in Nebraska.

The federal government did much to encourage settlement of frontier lands. The Pre-Emption Act of 1841, the original cornerstone of the nation's land policy, was the method by which settlers of territorial Nebraska secured their land.

The Homestead Act of 1862 provided for up to a quarter section of "free" land to heads of families who had paid the \$10 filing fee and resided on or cultivated the land for five consecutive years. The Timber Culture Act, approved in 1873, was supplemental to the Homestead Act. It provided that a homesteader could acquire an additional quarter section by

planting 40 acres to trees and caring for them for 10 (later eight) years).

Even with these incentives, northwest Nebraska remained a frontier area. A quarter or even half section of land was often not sufficient to support a family. This was especially true in the drought years of the 1890s when settlement of the area was just getting underway. Cattlemen in the area used the Homestead Act to secure rights to water holes and stream fronts for their large cattle grazing operations and were not interested in seeing the situation change.

In order to encourage settlement in the sparsely populated areas in the northwestern two-thirds of the state, Moses P. Kinkaid introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to amend the Homestead Act. The Kinkaid Act, as it came to be known, increased the size of the homestead to compensate the settler in quantity of land for what it lacked in quality and productiveness. The law went into effect in June of 1904. The nearest U.S. land office for application was in O'Neill in neighboring Holt County.

The Kinkaid Act applied to lands west of the 98th meridian. Under provisions of the Act, the homestead unit was not to exceed 640 acres and irrigable land should not be included. Homesteaders who already occupied lands under previous acts were allowed to acquire contiguous lands up to 640 acres maximum. Final proof to acquire the patent for the additional lands could not be made until five years after passage of the Act or five years after acquiring the additional land, whichever came first. It was also necessary for the homesteader to place permanent improvements on the claim which were valued at \$1.25 per acre (Reynolds, p. 23).

By 1912 nearly all the lands in the area in which the Kinkaid Act applied were taken, thus closing the story on this piece of experimental land legislation. The success of the Kinkaid Act led to the enactment of the Stock-Raising Homestead Act of 1916 which contained substantially the same provisions and applied to other states in the West.

County History

Even before the first settlers came into the county, the Niobrara River Valley functioned as a natural roadway west. In 1846 a band of Mormans from Illinois wintered with the Ponca Indians who were living in the area which is now Knox County.

The first permanent European settlement in what is now Knox County was established in 1856 near Niobrara. The county was originally called L'Eau Qui Court County when it was established and officially organized by the Territorial Legislature in 1857. In 1873 the name was changed to Knox County. This change was brought about because residents thought the county name too difficult to spell and pronounce (it was often mispronounced "Leaky Court County"). The area north of the Niobrara River, formally in Dakota Territory, was added in 1883 giving the county its present dimensions.

Early settlements in the county included Frankfort in Frankfort Township; Breckenridge, now known as Santee; and Running Water, now known as Pishelville. The population increased slowly until the end of the Civil War. After 1870 the rate of growth grew steadily. Other early settlements included Bazile Mills, Creighton, and Verdigris, now known as Verdigre.

Railroads were viewed as imperative to the development of an area. Both businessmen and farmers were anxious to have the railroad come through their area. This allowed the importation of consumer goods from the wider market of the entire region and the exportation of livestock and grain to a larger market. Knox County is somewhat unusual in that the railroad was not as instrumental as it was in other Nebraska counties in the founding of towns and recruitment of settlers. Most towns in the county were founded long before the railroad reached the area. In the early years of settlement the lack of rail service was mitigated by the presence of steamboat lines who supplied the area.



Fig. 1. 1907 Railroad locations in Knox County after the Official Railway Map of Nebraska, 1907.

The Knox County area faced stiff competition with other areas in the state in the wooing of the railroad. The cattle and agricultural production of southern Nebraska and the mineral resources of the Black Hills diverted interests of the railroad in the region (Van Hoven, p. 83). The first rail service to come to Knox County arrived in Creighton in 1881. In the eastern portion of the county, the railroad reached Bloomfield in 1890 and Crofton in 1892. Niobrara was not served by rail service until 1902.

Knox County Towns

Niobrara, one of the oldest communities in the state, has been much affected by its location on the Missouri River. It has been forced to move by flooding or high water and is now situated on its third townsite.

The original townsite was claimed in June of 1856 and a log cabin was constructed. A number of individuals from Council Bluffs, Iowa were interested in the area. They formed the L'Eau Qui Court Company for the purpose of colonizing the new town. By August of 1857 more than 60 men were living in and around Niobrara and it had been established as the

county seat. The first store opened in 1857 with goods brought in by steamer from St. Louis. The town continued to thrive but was wiped out by a flood in 1881. At this time the town was moved one and one-half miles to the southwest to higher ground and built anew. Niobrara continued as county seat until 1902 when a decision was made to relocate the county seat to Center, located in the approximate geographic center of the county. A high water table forced the residents of Niobrara to move their town once again in the 1970s. As a result, the town boasts many new buildings.

The history of Niobrara cannot be told without mention of Niobrara State Park. Land for the original park was donated to the town by the Department of Interior in 1890. At this time it was known as Island Park and the official opening was celebrated in 1910. In 1930 the park was donated to the State of Nebraska. Due to the same high water problems which affected the town of Niobrara, the park's boundaries have been modified. Some of the old cabins are still in use but new facilities have been constructed in new park areas.

Numerous battles arose over location of the county seat. In 1900 a final election was held. The sites in question were Bloomfield and the SE 1/4 of Sec. 3 in Valley Township with the latter winning. The new town, named Center due to its geographical location, officially was designated the county seat in 1902. The courthouse and jail were constructed in 1934.

Running Water settlement, now Pishelville, was established in 1858. It remained a tiny settlement until a group of Bohemian colonists arrived in 1869-1870. The ZCBJ Hall (KX09-1), listed on the National Register of Historic Places, gives testimony to the new settlers' commitment to the community.

Verdigre, originally named Verdigris but always called Verdige, was platted in 1887. The railroad was extended into Verdigre from Creighton in 1888. As the terminus of the rail line, the community saw a rapid increase in business activity. It retained this envious position until the rail line continued on to Niobrara in 1902.

There are many examples of buildings which serve to illustrate Verdigre's vitality. Steel Creek Mill opened in 1885 and operated until 1929. The building was dismantled and donated to the town in 1961. A brick ZCBJ Hall was constructed by Czechs of the community in 1904. This building also served the community as an opera house. In 1909 a creamery was established. It expanded so rapidly a second concrete block building was built soon after. The Queen Hotel opened its doors in 1908 and was the most popular eating place in town. It closed in 1901; however, a tavern operated in the building in the 1960s.

Creighton was first settled by the "Bruce Colonists" from Omaha in 1871. Early settlers lived in sod houses until frame homes could be built. The townsite was officially platted in 1874. In that same year the first store was constructed. The Sioux City and Pacific Railroad made its terminus in Creighton in 1881. As a result, business activity increased substantially. The first brick bank building, the First National Bank, was completed in 1883.

Bazile Mills, as its name implies, began as the site of a mill. The first settlers came to the area in 1872. Plans were made for the construction of a large grist mill which was completed in 1877. The townsite was laid out in the same year. The following year a large general store opened for business. In the early 1880s the village consisted of four general stores, two groceries, a drugstore, harness shop, shoe shop, school, hotel, and creamery. The railroad bypassed the town and it was unable to compete with other towns which were served by the railroad.

Bloomfield was platted in October of 1890. The first train arrived in the community in December of that same year. One of the businesses, High's Hardware, opened its doors in 1900 as a dry goods and grocery store. It remained in the same family for many years and was still in operation in the 1970s. Education was important to the residents of the town. The first public school opened in 1891. In 1925 a new high school was built. The first Trinity Lutheran Day School was organized in 1896 and continued in operation into the 1970s.

Crofton was begun in 1892 with the promise of the railroad coming through town. The first buildings included two saloons, a lumber yard,

and a bank. In 1896 the post office began operation and numerous businesses established. The promise of the railroad failed to materialize. People left town and some of the buildings were moved or torn down. When the railroad finally arrived in 1906 it created a second "boom" and much new construction followed. The First National Bank opened its doors in 1906. Many new businesses opened their doors in the first two decades of the century. In 1910 Crofton had 40 businesses in operation. By the 1970s there were over 60 businesses serving the area.

The rail line was completed through Wausa in 1890 and at one time three passenger and two freight trains came through the town each day. The first decade of the century saw much building activity in the community necessitating a cement block factory and brick yard for production of construction materials. Both manufacturers began production about 1908. The Creutz Drug Store was established in 1889 and continued as a family operation into the 1960s.

Sparta had its beginnings as a log cabin store built in 1887. It served settlers and Indians who lived nearby. In 1890 a post office was established and the present store constructed. It was moved a short distance to its present location in 1922. A number of additions have been made to the building. Sparta was the site of an outdoor bowling alley which was constructed in 1918. This proved quite an attraction to residents of the area until the 1930s when it closed.

The present town of Verdel was founded when the railroad came north and west from Niobrara in 1902. The first depot to serve the new town was located in a rail car. A permanent depot was built later. It served the rail traveling public until the last passenger train in the late 1950s and was subsequently razed. Verdel has had a bank from the town's inception. The first bank building was occupied by Reynolds Bar in the 1970s. A brick bank building was constructed at a later date.

Information on Winnetoon was not available in the sources listed in the bibliography. The town was named by a railroad official after a Wisconsin farm owned by his cousin (Fitzpatrick, p. 90).

Lindy is perhaps one of the youngest towns in Nebraska. The townsite was surveyed in 1928. There were rumors speculating that the railroad

would be coming through the area in the 1920s; however, the railroad failed to materialize. At one time Lindy boasted a large hall 48' x 100' with a full basement for a garage, second floor dance hall and moving picture theater, and a third floor for living quarters and offices. Unfortunately, the building was dismantled in 1944.

A number of towns were begun with great promise in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. For a variety of reasons, some of these towns did not survive to the present. The following paragraphs describe a few of the towns which are no longer in existence.

Jelen was an early post office and trading point. In the 1880s its store grew into a large establishment and at its peak the town contained a school and several businesses.

Knoxville was a rural community which included four homes, a blacksmith, post office, dance bowery, and general merchandise store. The community was founded some time in the 1890s but by the 1960s all the buildings had been dismantled or moved (Panorama of Our Heritage, p. 30).

Walnut, originally named Chrismanville, was one of the early settlements in Knox County. It was established in 1872 as a post office and store. This little settlement never grew into a town but the store continued to serve the rural population until 1957.

Dorsey was established as a post office in 1880. At one time there was a hotel, the Emerson House, and a livery stable for the traveler's convenience. It grew to be quite a town with such activities as a town band and baseball team. A community hall was also constructed. By the 1930s the town contained only a telephone exchange, post office, school, and church. The post office closed in 1957 and telephone switch closed in 1960.

Venus had its beginnings as a post office in 1882. A store, located in a home, was established in 1891. A commercial building was constructed to house the enterprise in 1899 but burned soon after. It was rebuilt in 1900. The Venus Store continued to serve as a post office until 1955 and remained in operation to serve the surrounding rural community.

Santee Sioux Reservation

Some of the earliest settlers in the county were the Santee Sioux. After an uprising in their native Minnesota in 1862, they were removed to the Crow Creek area in Dakota Territory where they suffered much. In 1866 they were again relocated, this time to the reservation in Knox County. The final boundaries of the reservation were determined in 1869, those being a rectangular tract 12 miles east to west and 15 miles north to south (Meyer, pp. 93-94).

Four years after establishment of the reservation, the first missionaries arrived by steamboat. Their mission on the reservation was to establish a school with a twofold purpose--religious instruction and industrial training (Riggs, p. 9). It was hoped successful graduates would go on to teach others the skills acquired at the mission.

The Santee Normal Training School established by the Congregational missionaries grew to be quite a facility. Upon arrival of the first missionaries, boys and girls cottages were constructed. Later, a shoe shop, carpenter shop, and blacksmith shop were constructed (Riggs, p. 66). By 1885 there were 18 buildings in all, situated on 480 acres (Guenther, p. 361).

Two churches on the reservation reflect the missionary efforts directed toward Christianizing the Santee. The Pilgrim Congregational Church and Manse (KX10-1) and the Church of Our Most Merciful Savior (KX10-2), an Episcopal mission, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Ethnic Groups in Knox County

The ethnic diversity of the people who settled and made their homes and livelihoods there are an important part of the history of Knox County. People came from many states and over 15 foreign countries came to make their homes there, adding richness to the social fabric of the county.

Information on numbers of foreign born are taken from Wayne Wheeler's compilation of census data. Since no detailed census analysis was performed, the locations of various ethnic settlements within the county must be inferred, primarily from county and ethnic histories and other

secondary sources. Evidence of the various groups' presence is indicated by the institutions which they founded. Churches, cemeteries, and fraternal organizations are examples of such institutions. In some cases, secondary sources mention specific ethnic groups as having settled in a particular area. In any event, a precinct-by-precinct census analysis should be performed to obtain a more precise picture of ethnic settlement within the county.

The 1880 census was the first census for which Wheeler lists data. In that year the foreign born comprised 13% of the county's total population. By 1890 the foreign-born percentages had increased to 22% of the county's total. In this census year the percentage of foreign born peaked. As the influx of foreign-born settlers slowed and the children of the foreign born were born in the U.S., the percentages of foreign-born persons in Knox County decreased. By 1910 the foreign-born population had decreased to 17% of the total population.

The Germans were the most numerous foreign-born group in Knox County as in Nebraska as a whole. In the 1880 census, German-born persons comprised nearly half (47%) of the total foreign-born population. The percentage decreased to 32% in 1890 but rose in succeeding census years to 39% of the foreign-born population in 1910.

A number of Germans lived in the Wausa area and established the Golgatha Lutheran Church there. Another German Lutheran congregation established St. Marks Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bloomfield. Services were held in German until 1918 when a gradual shift to English Language services began. Other Germans settled in the Pishelville area in an area which was predominantly Bohemian.

Wheeler combines the numbers of Swedish- and Norwegian-born persons in his 1880 census data. These combined numbers make them the second largest foreign-born group in the county in that year. In 1890 Swedes comprised the third largest foreign-born group. Numbers of Swedes increased greatly between 1890 and 1910 and in these census years the Swedish-born population was the second largest foreign-born group in Knox County.

The town of Oakland in Burt County became a starting point for Swedish colonization in and around Wausa. The first Swede in the area is said to have been T. T. Thorson who came to the area from Minnesota in 1881. It was through him two Augustana Lutheran Synod clergymen learned of the area and subsequently promoted Swedish settlement there.

The clergy and land agents were often engaged in a friendly partnership and this spirit of cooperation was continued in the Wausa area. One of the clergymen promoting Swedish settlement engaged in an agreement by which only Swedes would be allowed to buy land during a certain definite period. The result of this agreement was a concentration of Swedish settlers in the Wausa area (Nelson, p. 292; Dowie, p. 60).

The approximate boundaries of Swedish settlement included the area near Wausa and extending eastward into Cedar County "in a somewhat irregularly shaped area that extends six miles east north and west of Wausa and 2.5 miles southward over a surface of about 100 square miles" (Nelson, p. 291). In this area four-fifths of the farmers were of Swedish descent in the 1940s.

Wheeler lists no Bohemian-born persons in 1880. This appears to be an error since other sources clearly indicate substantial numbers of Bohemians settling in the county very early on (Rosicky and Van Hoff). Wheeler's figures list Bohemian-born persons as the second largest foreign-born group in the county in 1890 and the third largest in 1900. Again, in the 1910 census there are no Bohemian-born persons listed, yet, in the 1920 census there were large numbers of Czech-born persons in the data.

It was in 1868 representatives of a Bohemian colonization club from Chicago reported favorably to their members on the Niobrara River Valley in what is now Knox County. Two expeditions of settlers arrived in the valley the following year, one in July and the second in November. A third group of colonists arrived in the spring of 1870 (Rosicky, p. 184). The earliest settlers suffered many hardships but more and more Czechs arrived to take up the challenge of the new land.

Many of the Czech settlers in Knox County were "freethinkers." These people saw no need to practice the state (Catholic) religion of their

homeland (Van Hoff, p. 20). In these communities the establishment of fraternal lodges indicated a commitment to the community's permanence and played a significant role in the cultural and social life of the community. Czech fraternal lodges were established in Niobrara, Pishelville, Verdel, and Verdigre (Murphy, n.p.; Svoboda, pp. 181-182). Bohemian National Cemeteries were also established for those not of the Catholic faith. These cemeteries were founded in Jelen and Verdigre (Svoboda, pp. 187-188). A smaller number of Czechs continued to practice the religion of their homeland and established the Catholic Church and Catholic Fraternal Society in Verdigre (Svoboda, pp. 183, 185).

By the 1930s Czechs and their descendants were concentrated in Verdigre, Bohemia, Western, Sparta, Jefferson, Washington, and Niobrara townships. The "most Czech" town in the county was Verdigre where 90% of the population was Czech (Van Hoff, p. 2).

Together the Germans, Swedes, and Bohemians comprised the vast majority of foreign born in the county. These three groups accounted for 75% of the foreign-born population in 1890 and 78% in 1900. Numbers of other foreign-born groups were much smaller. Persons from the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland) were the third largest foreign-born group in 1880 and fourth largest in 1890 and 1900, yet comprised less than 2% of the total population in 1880 and 1890 and less than 1% in 1900. Other foreign-born groups were represented in even smaller numbers.

Agriculture

Nebraska is a large state with a variety of soil types and differing climatic conditions which make it necessary for the farmer to adapt farming practices to local conditions. It should also be noted there are few distinct areas where abrupt changes in farming practices are evidenced.

Several authors associated with the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture (Hedges and Elliott; Garey; Williams and Murfield) have described systems of farming in Nebraska to refer to areas with a high

degree of uniformity in the type of farming practiced and the economic and environmental conditions of the defined area.

Hedges and Elliott define Knox County as being in the Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production (NNILP) area. In this area crops are grown more for and plant nutrients as well which make them suitable for growing a number of crop types. The cropping system consists of corn, alfalfa, plus some wheat and oats. These are grown due to their adaptability to environmental conditions and their appropriateness as livestock feed.

Garey and Williams and Murfield define the western one-third to one-half as being in the Livestock, Wild Hay and Cash Grain area. This area is transitional between the Range Livestock area to the west and the intensive production of the NNILP area to the east. The inclusion of hay production and a less intensive level of grain and livestock production mark the difference between the Livestock, Wild Hay and Cash Grain area from the Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production area.

Settlement did not occur in the uplands of the county until all the more desirable areas of the county were homesteaded. During the early development of the county, cattle raising was practiced extensively on large tracts of ranch land. The first cultivated crops consisted of sod corn and garden vegetables. These crops were followed by oats and wheat as conditions stabilized (Hayes, p. 8). An agricultural inventory of Czech homesteads in 1870 reveals farming practices. Milk cows were a priority and nearly each settler owned one. Settlers with a team of oxen were able to cultivate about 15 acres while those without were only able to cultivate five to six acres, or about the minimum required by homestead laws (Van Hoff, p. 15).

Major crops grown in the county included corn, the most important crop, followed by oats, wild hay, alfalfa, and sweetclover. Today, as in the past, most crops were grown for livestock feed.

By the end of the 19th century, real advances in scientific farming began to have an impact on production. Crop rotation, seed selection, higher quality livestock through selective breeding, and research into plant and animal diseases were advances in agricultural practice.

Two advances were very important to intensive livestock production. A serum to prevent hog cholera resulted in an increase in production. The other highly significant advance was in the use of alfalfa in rotation with corn to maintain soil fertility. This allowed livestock production to be practiced on a more intensive level (Sweedlum, p. 207).

By the end of the 1930s the intensive livestock system of farming was in full flower with northeast Nebraska having more livestock per section than any other area of the state (Hedges and Elliott, pp. 36-38).

Cattle and hog feeding are the main livestock enterprises. The value of livestock has increased through time. By 1969, Williams and Murfield report over 90% of Knox County farms reporting some kind of livestock with receipts from livestock and livestock products accounting for over 80% of average farm income (p. 33).

Data from the Census of Agriculture for the years 1910 (p. 35), 1935 (p. 331), and 1982 (p. 127) has dropped drastically, particularly in the last 50 years. In 1910 there were 2,228 farms in Knox county. By 1935 the number had increased to 2,704 but declined by more than one-half to 1,280 in 1982.

The average acreage of farms in the county respond to the trend and as the number of farms increase, the average acreage decreases and correspondingly as the number of farms decrease, the average size increases. The average size farm in 1910 was 275 acres; the average size fell to 256 acres in 1935. As the number of farms in the county decreased, the average size rose to 501 acres in 1982. This figure is still well below the state average of 746 acres which reflects the intensive nature of agriculture in the area.

Final Comments

The Knox County economy is, and always has been, based on agriculture. The agricultural base is characterized by intensive livestock production with more grain grown for feed than cash grain. In the western portion of the county, wild hay is also important as a livestock feed. Additional revenues are brought to the county by tourists visiting Niobrara State Park. The towns in the county which serve the rural

population have remained relatively small. The county was populated by people from many states and foreign countries who came together to establish a rich social fabric which remains today.

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Introduction

The objectives associated with the Knox County Historic Buildings Survey were to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources within the county and to produce information which will serve as a reference in the preservation management of these resources. A post-survey evaluation of these goals reveals that the Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County was indeed a highly successful project. This success can be expressed in two quantifiable translations. These are, quite simply, numerically and geographically. Each street of the required 13 Knox County communities and nearly every rural road was surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods. The numbers produced by the survey are indicative of this. A total of 2,153 contributing buildings, structures, objects, and sites were documented on 749 individual properties. The survey canvassed 386,960 acres (605 square miles) and identified 203 properties potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

For the purpose of organization, a more specific summary of the historic properties in Knox County has been broken into two main parts. These are:

1. A Topical Discussion and Preliminary Inventory of the Knox County historic properties judged to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and
2. A supratypological summary of the predominant house types recorded in Knox County.

General Summary Part 1:

A Topical Discussion and Preliminary Inventory of Knox County Historic Properties

The following discussion consists of a topical summary and Preliminary Inventory of the historic properties documented during the Knox County Historic Buildings Survey. This discussion is arranged according to the Topical Listing of Historic Contexts authored by the Nebraska State

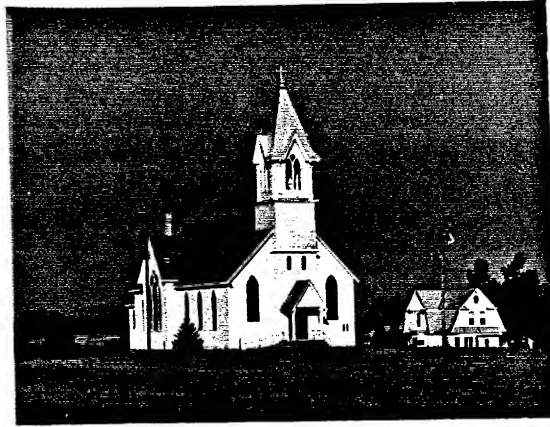
Historic Preservation Office. It includes only a discussion of those Historic Contexts which contain properties judged as either potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or as contributors to the historic character of Knox County. Included at the end of each summary is an illustrative inventory of properties which appear potentially significant with respect to the Historic Context being discussed. Each of these inventories has been broken into two parts containing (1) those properties which bear the greatest potential for National Register listing, and (2) those properties contributing to the historic character of the county which are of secondary priority with respect to National Register listing.

Historic Context: Religion

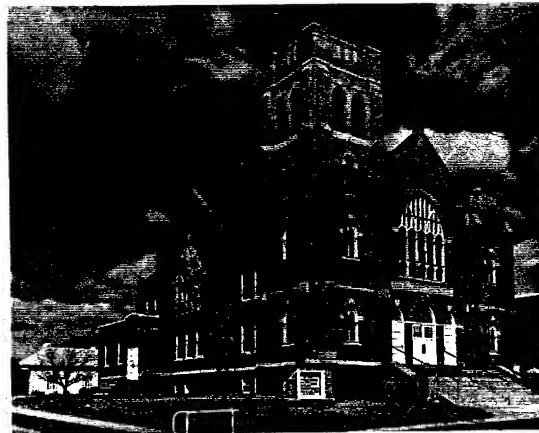
The contextual topic of religion, as one might gather, encompasses any cultural manifestation relative to the faithful devotion of an acknowledged deity. This includes any social entity relating to sacred organizations and rituals or considered a sacred place. In terms of historic buildings and structures, this includes churches, parsonage-rectories, cemeteries, fellowship halls, and schools. The Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County provided 26 religious-related properties with a corresponding total of 33 contributing buildings, four contributing objects, and nine contributing sites. These 26 documented properties consist of 16 churches or church complexes, eight individual rural cemeteries, one rectory, and one religious-related memorial. In addition to the 26 properties found during the recent completion of the Knox County Historic Buildings Survey, five other religious-related properties were previously surveyed at various times by NeSHPO staff members. The results of the survey with respect to religious properties are viewed with somewhat mixed emotions. Certainly the recording of only 16 churches or church complexes in a county of such large geographic area is somewhat disappointing. The main culprit for these lower numbers was, as usual, a lack of historic integrity. In several instances religious-related properties were not documented due to severe alterations of original historic materials or to grossly obtrusive additions constructed at later

dates. While the numbers of total religious properties were lower than anticipated, the quality and integrity of those that were documented was generally quite high. In fact, of the 26 religious properties, seven were considered potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places with an additional seven properties judged as second priority contributors to the historic character of Knox County. Although few in number, the religious properties recorded in Knox County represent a variety of artistic, historical, and cultural influences. Artistically, the consciousness of architectural design ranged from simple, unadorned hall-type structures to more elaborate expressions of academic stylistic traditions. Historically, these buildings represent a significant period of historic importance that ranges from the 1870s mission churches of the Santee Sioux reservation to the early 20th century churches built in established white communities. And finally on a cultural level, these buildings are associated with a varied set of cultural groups including Santee Sioux, Bohemians, Danes, Germans, and Mormons.

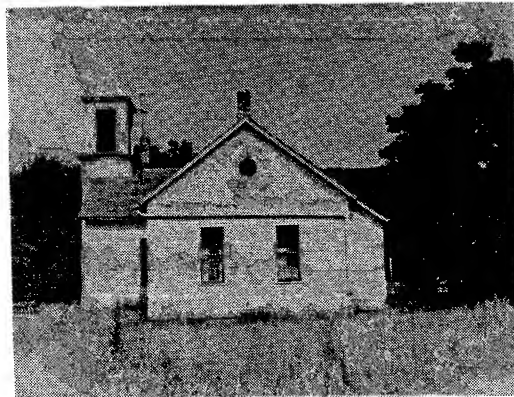
KX00-29: Christ Lutheran Church, 1914-1915. Religion - Lutheran. SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 4, T.29 N., R.5 W. Potentially significant for association with rural-based Lutheran enclave formed during early white settlement of south-central Knox County.



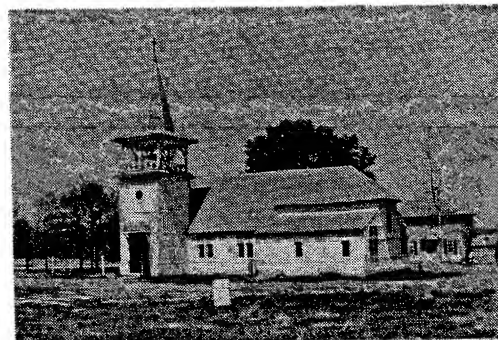
KX02-44: Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Church Complex, 1913-1948. N.W.C. Hill & Main St., Bloomfield. Significant complex of three religious buildings of German Lutheran parish founded in 1896. Most noteworthy of the three is the Gothic Revival church (1913).



KX10-1: Congregational Mission Church, 1870-1871. NW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 13, T.33 N., R.5 W. Significance derived from an association with the 1870s missionary efforts of the Congregational church on the Santee Sioux Indian Reservation.



KX10-2: Episcopal Mission Church, 1884. SW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 18, T.33 N., R.4 W. One of two missionary churches established during late 19th century on the Santee Sioux Indian Reservation.





KX13-13: Verdel United Presbyterian Church, 1907. N.W.C. Peyton Ave. & 2nd St., Verdel. Significant example of early 20th century commitment to religion as manifested in well preserved frame church building.



KX14-2: Verdigre Catholic Church, 1913. S.E.C. 3rd St. & 4th Ave., Verdigre. Selected as an indication of the importance of religion in early 20th century community life and for association with Bohemian-American culture.



KX17-16: Bethesda Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1913. S.E.C. Nippel Ave. & County Rd, Winnetoon. Potentially significant for role in early 20th century religious development of community and for association with Danish-American culture.

Second Priority Religion-Related Properties:

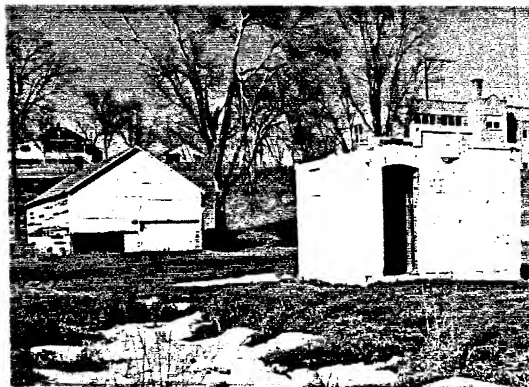
X KX00-170: Mormon Memorial
X KX00-191: Unidentified Church
X KX00-212: Congregational Church
X KX00-219: Abandoned Church

X KX04-85: Baptist Church, 1883
X KX05-37: Congregational Church, 1907
X KX12-1: Venus Wesleyan Church, 1904

Historic Context: Legal Systems

The Historic Context entitled Legal Systems involves the binding customs of a community prescribed and enforced by a local authority. The set of historic buildings which correspond to this topic can be quite broad but includes, among others, law enforcement, correctional, and regulatory buildings. Unfortunately, only two historic properties fitting the Legal Systems context were recorded in Knox County. These are the Verdel Jail (KX13-24) and the Knox County Courthouse (KX03-10). The Knox County Courthouse, constructed in the 1930s, was not considered noteworthy on an architectural basis. However, the Verdel Jail may bear some contextual significance and should be investigated further by the NeSHPO. This building is believed to have been built around 1907 and consists of a small scale one-story masonry structure with a flat roof and shallow false front parapet. The Verdel Jail was considered potentially eligible for the NRHP based on its role in the enforcement of law during the early 20th century.

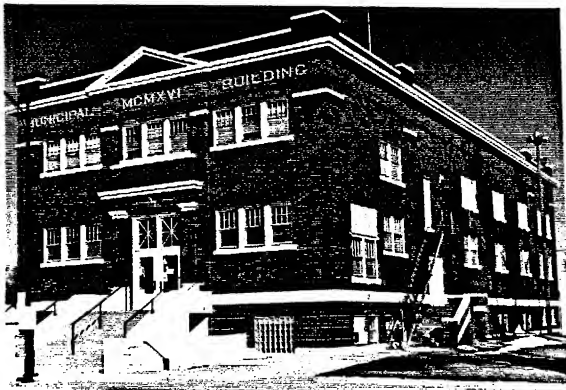
KX13-24: Verdel Jail, ca. 1907. N.S. Main St. bet. Glick Ave. & Dakota Ave., Verdel. Despite deteriorated condition, the former Verdel Jail represents the crude law enforcement system in northwest Knox County during the early 20th century.



Historic Context: Political Systems

The contextual topic of Political Systems encompasses the art or science of established government as well as competition between interest groups for leadership of local, state, or national government. Historic buildings which may relate to this topic include most government-related structures necessary to the operation of communities.

Typically, the recording of buildings fitting this context has been somewhat low due presumably to the fact that it only takes one or two of these buildings to satisfy the functional needs of a community. Consequently, it was not surprising that the Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County recorded only five properties with potential relation to this context. These five properties are: the Creighton Municipal Building (KX04-14), Bloomfield City Maintenance Building (KX02-66), Creighton City Maintenance Building (KX04-60), Wausa Community Building (KX16-38), and the Wausa Fire Hall (KX16-42). Most noteworthy among these properties is the Creighton Municipal Building (1916), a two-story brick structure with a raised basement, parapet flat roof, and Classical detailed engaged entry. Three of the remaining four properties which fit this context are listed below as second priority contributors to the historic character of Knox County.



KX04-15: Creighton Municipal Building, 1916. N.E.C. State St. & Redick Ave., Creighton. The Creighton Municipal Building is representative of the expansion of local government during the population peak of the early 20th century.

Second Priority Political Systems Properties:

- X KX02-66: Bloomfield Maintenance Building
- X KX16-38: Wausa Community Building
- X KX16-42: Wausa Fire Hall

Historic Context: Associations

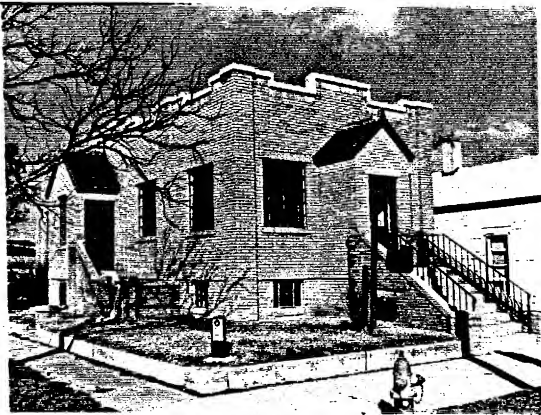
The contextual theme of Association refers to the institutionally patterned interactions among people. Association covers a large group of these institutionalized affiliations including, among others: fraternal, service, special interest, trade, political, humanitarian, religious, educational, social, and business organizations.

The Knox County Historic Buildings Survey recorded two properties with relationship to the Association Historic Context. These are: the David Morgan Legion Hall in Verdel (KX13-8) and a fraternal association building in Center (KX03-9). In addition to this, two previously surveyed association buildings were recorded by NeSHPO staff prior to the commencement of this survey. These are: the Bloomfield Masonic Lodge (KX02-7) and the ZCBJ Building Bila Hora No. 5 (KX14-1). All four of the association-related buildings documented in Knox County are considered potentially eligible for National Register listing and are illustrated below in the Inventory.

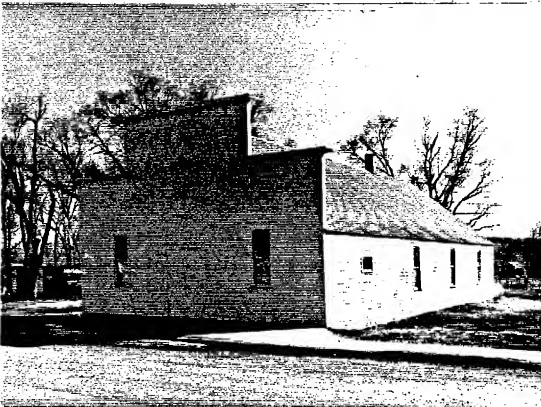
The identification of association buildings was often very difficult. The organizations of the smaller communities did not always build a separate structure used solely for their purposes. Instead, they often rented the upper second floor story of an existing "Main Street" commercial building. The association buildings were often only identifiable in larger communities where greater membership and financial resources allowed the construction of individual meeting halls used specifically by the association group. In addition, the continued existence of organizations has usually dictated the updating or remodeling of historically built association buildings. In other words, the 1980s V.F.W. members were not satisfied with the 1920s V.F.W. building and have either extensively remodeled or built a new facility. Only in the case where the original building was constructed on a more permanent (masonry) and monumental scale with a publicly identifiable image of self-pride has the building survived intact and unaltered.



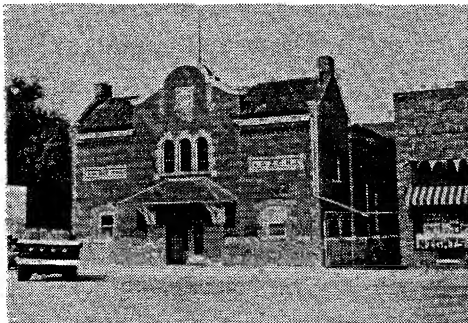
KX02-7: Bloomfield Masonic Lodge, 1914. N.W.C. Main St. & Park St., Bloomfield. Selected for Preliminary Inventory based on relation to service-oriented Masonic association and for use of style motifs.



KX03-9: Association Building, ca. 1915. N.W.C. Main St. & Bridge St., Center. Unidentified building with potential significance derived through relation to associations or professional services.



KX13-8: David Morgan Legion Hall, 1919. S.S. Main St. bet. Glick Ave. & Dakota Ave., Verdel. Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a contributor to the Association Context and as a representative example of the false front building type.



KX14-1: ZCBJ Building, Bila Hora No. 5, 1904. S.E.C. Main St. & Fourth Ave., Verdigre. Excellent example of an association building with significance found in architectural design and relation to Bohemian-American culture.

Historic Context: Education

The contextual topic of Education encompasses any act or process which imparts or aids in the acquisition of knowledge. This title is quite self-explanatory with primary emphasis focused upon the components of schooling and enrichment. Historic buildings which fit this context are, among others, libraries, museums, and various forms or levels of schools.

The historic buildings survey of educational-related properties in Knox County must be considered one of the more successful aspects of the northeast NehBS project. Knox County contains an excellent collection of 32 recorded historic properties relating to the Education Context. The survey was successful not only in terms of the large number of properties recorded, but also in the respective qualities of integrity and design which these properties displayed.

A breakdown of the 32 documented properties reveals that 20 of these were rural-based schools, nine were town-based schools, and three were libraries. While conducting a visual post-survey review of the 29 total school buildings, Save America's Heritage found that two distinct building form types were predominant. The first type is a simple unadorned hall-type building usually constructed of frame materials and containing a rectangular one-room plan. The survivors of this type were found predominantly in the rural environs and appear to have been constructed during a period from 1880 to about 1910. They are usually one story in height with a gable-end entry and were protected by a gable roof placed in either latitudinal or longitudinal orientations. The second predominant form type to emerge were the so-called "modern" school buildings which, in the case of Knox County, were generally larger scale masonry buildings confined primarily to community-based locations. These building types appear to have been built during the years of 1910 to 1930 and usually consist of a raised basement two-story masonry structure which occupies the grounds of a single town block.

Particular mention must be made at this point concerning the preponderance of the one-room hall type school building. Of the 29 total schools recorded in Knox County, 19 fit the category of the hall-type building.

The majority of these were found in rural locations (17) with only two extant examples found in the communities of Creighton and Center. Because of the extensive development of the hall-type school and its subsequent survival throughout the county, it is Save America's Heritage recommendation that the NeSHPO pursue the Multiple Property Nomination of one-room hall-type school buildings. These properties are collectively viewed as significant historic resources based on their role in the initial establishment of the rural educational system throughout Knox County. Due to the large number of potentially eligible properties which contribute to this theme, Save America's Heritage is not able to illustrate each individual property. Instead, six representative examples have been photographically portrayed below with an additional listing of the other 13 potentially eligible hall-type schools. Following the presentation of this theme, the reader will find three other educational-related buildings judged potentially eligible for National Register listing. These are: the Bloomfield Carnegie Library (KX02-6), the Lincoln Township Library (KX16-80), and the Winnetoon Public School (KX17-2).

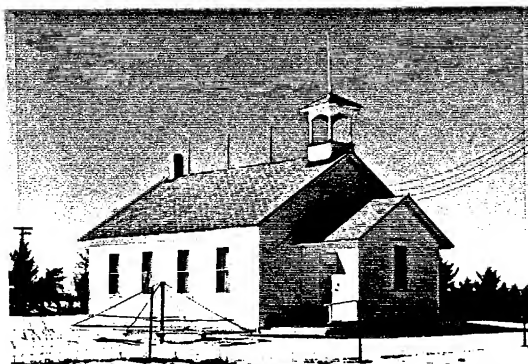


KX00-93: Abandoned Schoolhouse, ca. 1900. SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 33, T.30 N., R.8 W., Knox County. Potentially eligible for NRHP based on association with Multiple Property Nomination of hall-type school buildings in Knox County.

KX00-82: Abandoned Schoolhouse, ca. 1900. SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 8, T.30 N., R.7 W., Knox County. Potentially eligible for NRHP listing based on association with recommended Multiple Property Nomination of hall-type school buildings in Knox County.



KX00-86: Former Schoolhouse, ca. 1900. NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 2, T.30 N., R.8 W., Knox County. Potentially eligible for NRHP listing based on association with recommended Multiple Property Nomination of hall-type school buildings in Knox County.

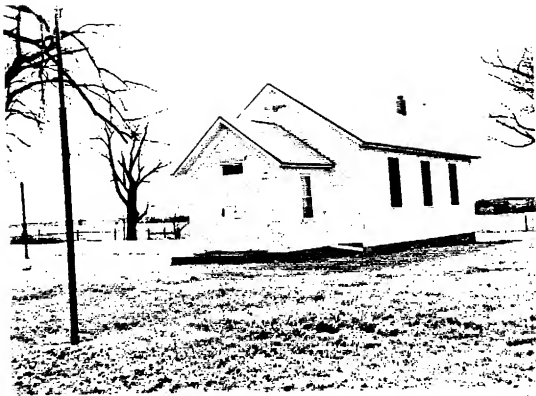


KX00-123: Abandoned Schoolhouse, ca. 1900. SE 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 15, T.33 N., R.8 W., Knox County. Potentially eligible for NRHP listing based on association with recommended Multiple Property Nomination of hall-type school buildings in Knox County.



KX00-203: Abandoned Schoolhouse, ca. 1900. SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 24, T.33 N., R.3 W., Knox County. Potentially eligible for NRHP listing based on association with recommended Multiple Property Nomination of hall-type school buildings in Knox County.





KX00-253: Abandoned Schoolhouse, ca. 1900. NE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 29, T.30 N., R.4 W., Knox County. Potentially eligible for NRHP listing based on association with recommended Multiple Property Nomination of hall-type school buildings in Knox County.

Additional Listing of Potentially Eligible Hall-Type Schools:

~~X~~ KX00-61

~~X~~ KX00-87

~~X~~ KX00-124

~~X~~ KX00-127

~~X~~ KX00-167

~~X~~ KX00-184

~~X~~ KX00-195

~~X~~ KX00-215

~~X~~ KX00-263

~~X~~ KX00-299

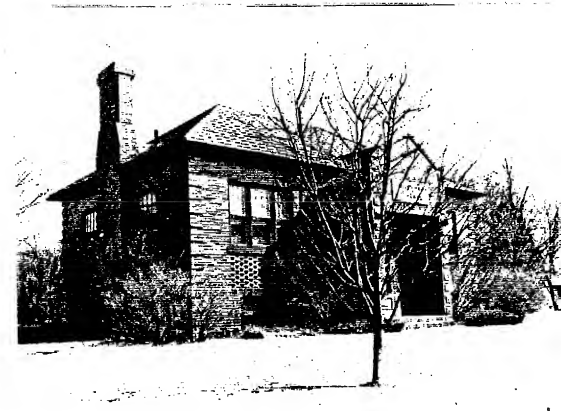
~~X~~ KX03-4

~~X~~ KX04-20

~~X~~ KX12-2

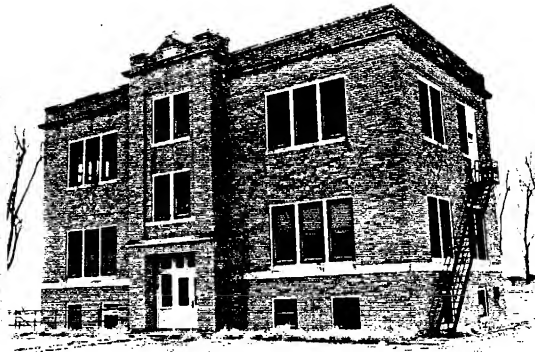


KX02-6: Bloomfield Carnegie Library, ca. 1913. S.W.C. Grant St. & Broadway St., Bloomfield. One-story brick library building constructed as a result of the philanthropic efforts of the Carnegie Foundation.



KX16-80: Lincoln Township Library, ca. 1915. N.E.C. Norris St. & Hampton St., Wausa. Selected for the Inventory based on the Tudor-inspired design aesthetic and for potential association with the Carnegie-sponsored libraries.

KX17-2: Winnetoon Public School Building, 1914. W.S. of West boundary bet. 1st St. & Railroad St., Winnetoon. Selected as a well-preserved example of the "modern"-type school building representative of the early 20th century advancement in educational facilities.



Historic Context: Diversion

Diversion is the contextual title which encompasses the human activities of recreation, entertainment, sports, and travel. Under this title, Save America's Heritage has included such building types as theaters and opera houses as well as any structures associated with parks, fairgrounds, and sporting grounds. The Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County produced a total of four recorded properties fitting the Diversion Context. These are: Bloomfield Memorial Park and Fairgrounds (KX02-97), the former Verdel Theater (KX13-4), the Crofton Home Theater (KX05-43), and the Empress Theater in Wausa (KX16-35). In addition to these four properties, two other Diversion-related buildings were documented during previous NeSHPO survey work. These were the Pospeshil Theater in Bloomfield (KX02-8) and the Crofton Opera House (KX05-19).

Typically, the number of Diversion-related properties documented in a reconnaissance survey are relatively low. This is attributed to the fact that, unlike houses or commercial buildings, a community of smaller population only required one or two entertainment-related buildings. These were most commonly either theaters or opera houses. Beyond that, it was not possible to financially support more than one of these activities in a community of 2,000 people or less. This is true even to the present day where we see only one movie house in communities as large as 4,000 people. Compounding the infrequent survey of these buildings is the fact that often times they occupied the second floor of a two-story "Main Street" commercial building thus disguising their dual function to the uninformed surveyor. So, in summary, it is neither disappointing nor surprising that only six properties were surveyed with known relation to the Diversion Context.

KX16-35: Empress Theater, ca. 1920. N.S. Broadway bet. Sherman St. & Hampton St., Wausa. Potentially significant as an infrequently recorded building type and for its representation of a social entertainment popularized during the 1920s and 1930s.



KX02-97: Bloomfield Memorial Park & County Fairgrounds, 1920-23. N.S. Highway 84 bet. Bazile St. & Grant St., Bloomfield. Potentially significant example of Diversion-related property consisting of 19 frame buildings and structures built bet. the years of 1920 to 1923.



Historic Context: Agriculture

The Historic Contexts relating to the theme of Agriculture will obviously be of great variety and importance to Nebraska. As a predominantly agrarian-based society, the economic well-being of the state is, in part, dependent upon the production of crops and livestock. Like other Nebraska counties, the settlement of Knox County was correspondent to the agricultural success of the early permanent settlers. Consequently, the documentation of historic agricultural properties in Knox County was an important and numerically significant task. Bearing this out is the fact that a total of 228 individual farm sites were documented by the Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County. These 228 properties accounted for 1,173 contributing buildings, 142 contributing structures, and 69 contributing objects. While no other county in the Northeast Intensive Livestock area is of such large geographic size as Knox County, these totals are somewhat consistent on a proportional judgement with other northeast NeHBS counties.

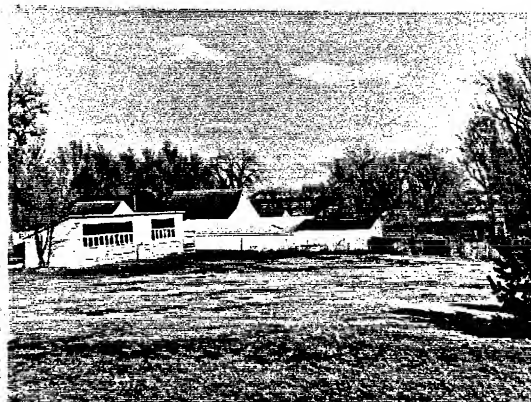
The farmsteads documented by the survey are collectively viewed as an important historic resource for the state of Nebraska. They portray the raw materials of a people and an industry responsible for the settlement of a vast portion of our state. The continued existence of some of the farms documented in Knox County is, however, somewhat in doubt. In fact, 97 or approximately 43% of the 228 farms recorded were either abandoned farmsteads or farmhouses. The majority of these farms range in their era of construction from approximately 1885 to 1930. They contain the basic buildings necessary to crop and animal production such as cattle and hog barns, drive-thru corn cribs, granaries, and implement sheds. Particular emphasis was placed on the observance of farm properties relating to Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production. This farming type was identified in the 1930s by authors associated with the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture (Hedges and Elliott; Garey) as the predominant type of agriculture conducted in Knox County. This farming type was indeed prevalent throughout the duration of the rural survey with over 90% of all farms surveyed exhibiting some connection to cattle and/or hog production. Some of the more noteworthy properties or individual

buildings with potential association to this context are: KX00-70, KX00-92, KX00-94, KX00-114, KX00-131, KX00-134, KX00-187, KX00-193 (the Ash Grove Farm), KX00-246, KX00-248, KX00-251, and KX00-254. These 12 properties are recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and nine are illustrated in the Preliminary Inventory found below. The remaining three properties with potential association to the Agriculture Context are illustrated in the Bohemian-American Study found in the Recommendations for Future Work. In addition to these 14 properties, 10 other sites were judged as second priority contributors to the historic character of Knox County and are listed at the end of the Agriculture summary.

KX00-114: Farmstead, ca. 1918. SW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 16, T.29 N., R.5 W. Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock farmstead chosen primarily for 8-sided frame hay/horse barn and banked, gambrel roof livestock barn.



KX00-131: Farmstead, ca. 1920. NW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 27, T.29 N., R.5 W. Potential significance based on association with the Historic Context of Northeast Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production.





KX00-134: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1923. NE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 34, T.31 N., R.5 W., Knox County. Abandoned farmstead containing six contributing buildings but preliminarily selected only on the presence of the circa 1923 clay tile barn.



KX00-187: Farmstead, ca. 1885 & 1925. NE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 27, T.33 N., R.2 W., Knox County. Large-scale livestock producing farmstead included in Inventory primarily for circa 1885 stone barn and large two-story frame house.



KX00-193: Ash Grove Farm, 1883. SW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 10, T.32 N., R.2 W., Knox County. Significant example of pre-20th century livestock farmstead founded by the Irish immigrant family of Guy Gregg.



KX00-246: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1890. SW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 24, T.29 N., R.4 W., Knox County. Despite abandonment, this farmstead is significant for its representation of the late 19th century general agriculture farming system.

KX00-248: David Milne Barn, 1907.
SE 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 32, T.29 N.,
R.6 W., Knox County. Potentially
significant for association with
livestock production. Concrete
block banked barn measures 44' by
68' and was made with blocks formed
directly on-site.



KX00-251: Farmstead, ca. 1918.
SW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 27, T.29 N.,
R.4 W., Knox County. This farm-
stead was chosen for its well-
preserved collection of intensive
livestock producing farm buildings
and for potential association with
Swedish-American culture.



KX00-254: Farmstead, ca. 1910.
NW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 26, T.29 N.,
R.4 W., Knox County. Selected as a
potentially significant representa-
tive of the Northeast Nebraska
Intensive Livestock Production
Historic Context.



Second Priority Agriculture Properties:

~~X~~ KX00-53: Abandoned Farmstead
~~X~~ KX00-83: Abandoned Farmstead
~~X~~ KX00-109: Farmstead, ca. 1910
~~X~~ KX00-130: Farmstead, ca. 1920
~~X~~ KX00-145: Farmstead, ca. 1905

KX00-150: Abandoned Farmstead
KX00-197: Leonard Wiegand Farm
KX00-236: Farmstead
KX00-259: Livestock Farmstead
KX00-275: Livestock Farmstead

Historic Context: Commerce

The documentation of Commerce-related properties in Knox County must be considered one of the major successes of the reconnaissance-based survey. Knox County contains an excellent collection of 89 recorded historic properties relating to the Historic Context of Commerce. The survey was successful not only in terms of the large number of properties recorded, but also in the respective qualities of integrity and design which these properties displayed. Indicative of these exceptional qualities is the fact that 25 Commerce-related properties have been primarily recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Of the 89 commercial properties recorded in Knox County, 60 were found in the recent northeast NeHBS survey conducted by Save America's Heritage while the remaining 29 were surveyed previously by NeSHPO staff members.

A breakdown of the 89 documented properties reveals that 59 were related to commercial retail activities, seven were related to the banking industry, two more sites were associated with professional services, and 21 were unavailable for review from the NeSHPO. While conducting a visual post-survey review of the 68 buildings of available record, Save America's Heritage found that two distinct building types were most evident. The first type is a simple false front building usually constructed of frame materials and containing a longitudinally-oriented rectangular plan. They were typically only one story in height and were entered through a narrow gable-end entry. The two-story examples usually housed the living quarters of the proprietor above an open ground floor retail space. The survivors of this type were predominantly found in town locations and appear to have been constructed during a period from 1885 to 1905. Properties recorded in Knox County of the false front type are: KX03-7, KX03-8, KX04-57, KX05-8, KX11-1, KX12-3, KX13-3, KX13-4, KX13-7, KX13-8, KX13-12, KX15-1, KX16-26, KX16-79, KX17-10, KX17-11, and KX17-13. Particular mention must be made at this time concerning the false front general stores located in Sparta (KX11), Venus (KX12), and Walnut (KX15). These buildings actually served the rural-based environs despite their location in what are known as "crossroads communities." They not only

acted as magnets of local settlement but also served as distribution points for mail and agricultural hardware.

The second predominant type to emerge was the masonry commercial building or block. These buildings were generally large-scale masonry buildings confined primarily to the central business districts of the Knox County communities. This building type appears to have been built primarily between the years of 1905 and 1930 and usually consist of one- and two-story masonry structures with one- or two-part compositional facades. These buildings were often built on a single 25-foot commercial-sized lots or in double- to triple-wide commercial blocks of 50 to 75 foot widths.

KX02-47: Log Mill Building, ca. 1887. N 1/4, Lots 7 & 8, Block 1, Railroad Addition, Bloomfield. Relocated log mill building potentially significant for association with the processing of agriculture products during the late 19th century.

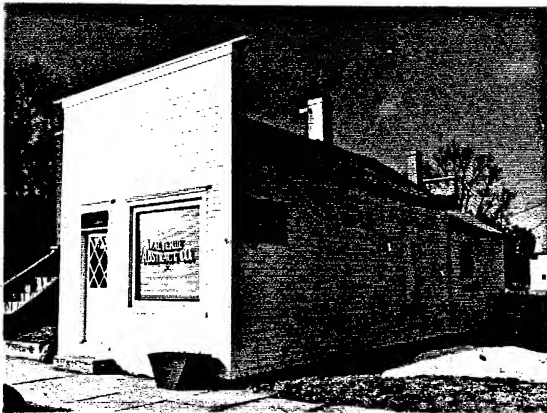


KX02-52: Sale Barn, ca. 1938. N.S. Bazile St. bet. Pierce St. & Washington St., Bloomfield. Cement block sale barn built by WPA in late 1930s. Significant role in the provision of a home market for local farm products.





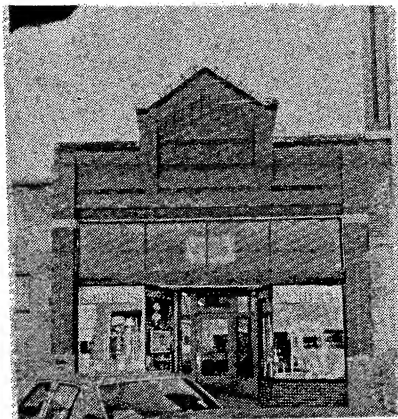
KX02-56: Commercial Building, ca. 1908. W.S. Broadway bet. Bazile St. & Main St., Bloomfield. Two-story brick commercial building selected for its association with retailing in the early 20th century and as an example of the two-part "modern" commercial type.



KX03-8: Commercial Building, ca. 1902. W.S. Main St. bet. Bridge St. & North St. Selected as an example of the turn-of-the-century false front commercial type and for association with sole proprietorship retailing.

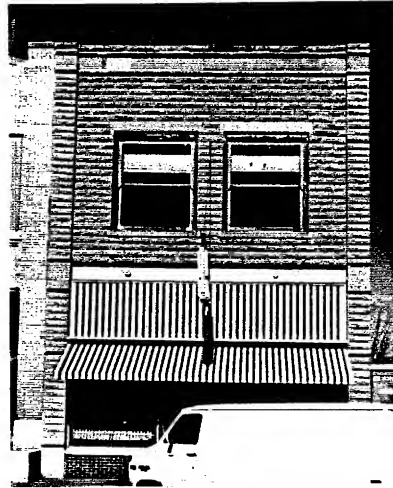


KX04-48: Former Bank, ca. 1900. S.S. Main St. bet. Redick Ave. & Chase Ave., Creighton. Included in Inventory for possible association with early 20th century banking and for Richardsonian Romanesque design aesthetic.

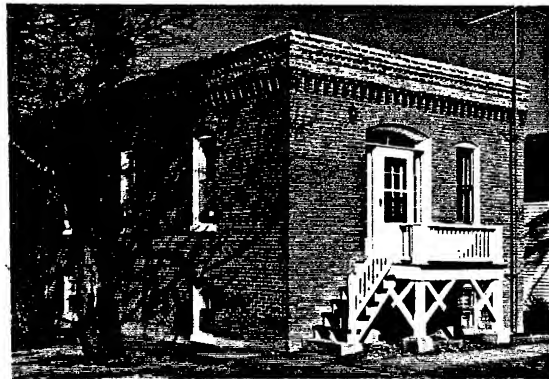


KX04-49: Commercial Building, ca. 1907. S.S. Main St. bet. Redick Ave. & Chase Ave., Creighton. Well-preserved one-story brick commercial building significant for its association with retail commerce in the early 20th century.

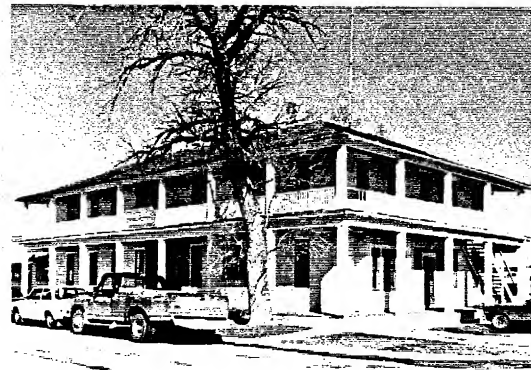
KX04-51: Commercial Building, ca. 1910. N.S. Main St. bet. Redick Ave. & Chase Ave., Creighton. Two-story concrete brick bakery building associated with the "modern" commercial building type of the early 20th century.



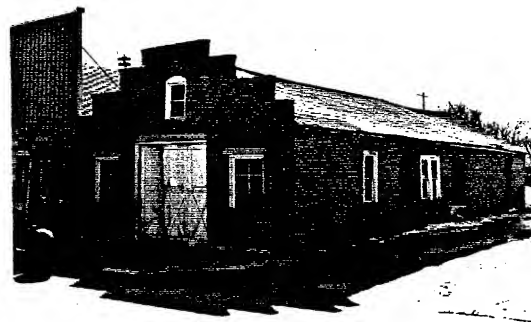
KX04-63: Professional Building, ca. 1903. N.E.C. Garfield St. & Peyton Ave., Creighton. A well-preserved example of a residentially located commercial building associated with the provision of professional services during the early 20th century.



KX04-69: Park Hotel, ca. 1882. N.E.C. Garfield St. & Chase Ave., Creighton. Two-story frame hotel constructed in the early 1880s and deriving significance through association with the Historic Contexts of Commerce and Transportation.



KX05-41: Livery/Garage, ca. 1891. W.S. 2nd St. bet. Iowa St. & Kansas St., Crofton. Potential significance derived through the locally rare use of masonry in a false front type commercial building and for a secondary association with the Context of Transportation.

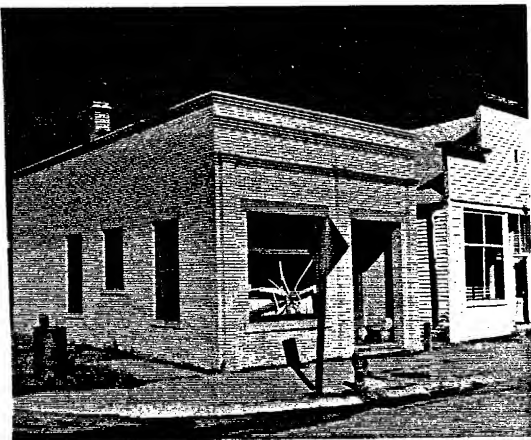




KX11-1: Sparta Store and Post Office, 1890. SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 13, T.31 N., R.6 W., Knox County. One of the three "crossroads" stores in the Inventory selected for its importance as a distributional center of mail, hardware, and dry goods to the local rural environs.



KX12-3: Venus Store and Post Office, 1900. SE 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 29, T.29 N., R.8 W., Knox County. One of three "crossroads" stores in the Inventory selected for its importance as a distributional center of mail, hardware, and dry goods to the local rural environs.

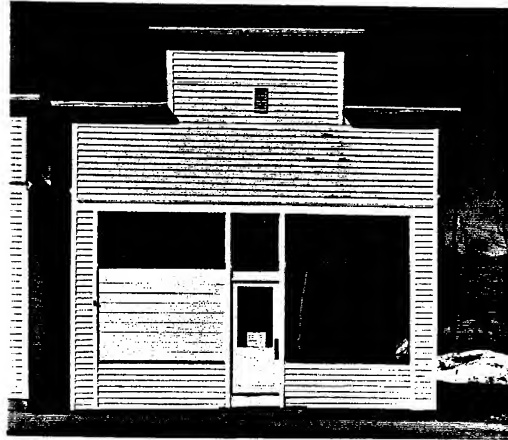


KX13-2: Former Bank, ca. 1911. N.E.C. Main St. & Glick Ave., Verdel. One-story brick bank building potentially significant for its role in the economic and financial development of northwest Knox County during the early 20th century.

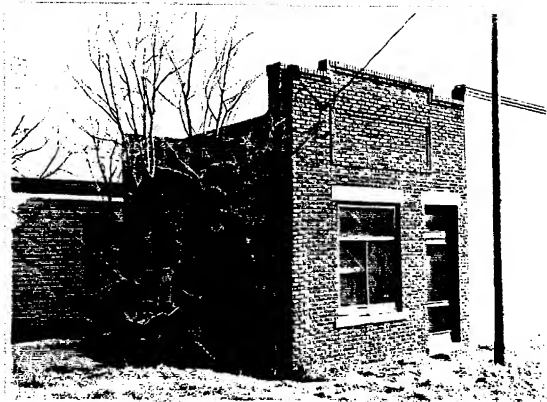


KX13-3: Commercial Building, ca. 1903. N.S. Main St. bet. Glick Ave. & Dakota Ave., Verdel. Originally built as a warehouse for the Pischelville Store, this false front commercial building is indicative of early 20th century sole proprietor retail commerce.

KX13-4: Former Theater & Commercial Building, ca. 1913. N.S. Main St. bet. Glick Ave. & Dakota Ave., Verdel. Significance based on an association with early 20th century retail commerce and for portrayal of the locally predominant false front building type.



KX13-9: Former Professional Building, ca. 1911. E.S. Glick Ave. bet. Main St. & First St., Verdel. Small-scale, one-story brick building potentially significant for the provision of professional services to Verdel during the early 20th century.



KX15-1: Walnut Store & Post Office, ca. 1888. NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 26, T.30 N., R.8 W., Knox County: One of three "crossroads" in the Inventory selected for its importance as a distributional center of mail, hardware, and dry goods to the local rural environs.



KX16-26: Blenkiron Lumber, 1890. N.S. Broadway bet. Hampton St. & Washington St., Wausa. A well-preserved example of a late 19th century lumber yard containing a two-story false front office and two frame storage buildings.





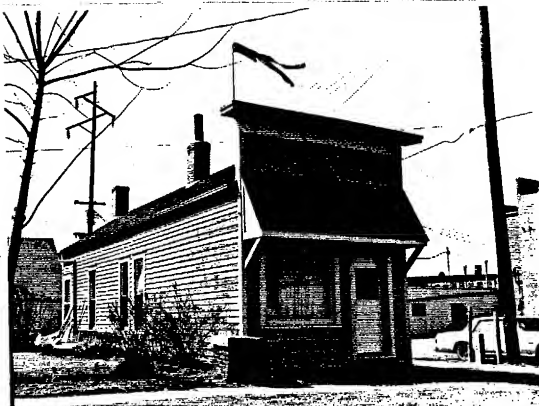
KX16-30: Farmers State Bank, 1904. S.W.C. Broadway & Hampton St., Wausa. Two-story brick bank building potentially significant for its role in the economic development and financial stability of Wausa during the early 20th century.



KX16-36: Larson and Engdahl Commercial Building, ca. 1905. N.S. Broadway bet. Sherman St. & Hampton St., Wausa. Included in the Inventory for locally rare use of cast-iron facade materials and for association with the contexts of Commerce and Swedish Culture.

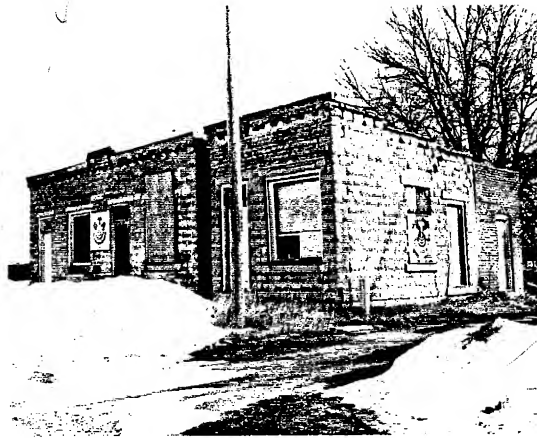


KX16-78: Former Bank, ca. 1911. W.S. Hampton St. bet. Broadway & Norris St., Wausa. Two-story brick building significant for use of Neoclassical style motifs and association with the financial development of Wausa during the early 20th century.

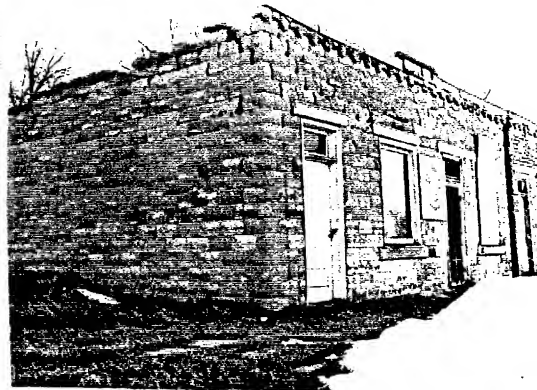


KX16-79: Commercial Building, ca. 1900. W.S. Hampton St. bet. Norris St. & Broadway, Wausa. One-story frame commercial building indicative of the false front compositional type and significant as an example of sole proprietor retail commerce.

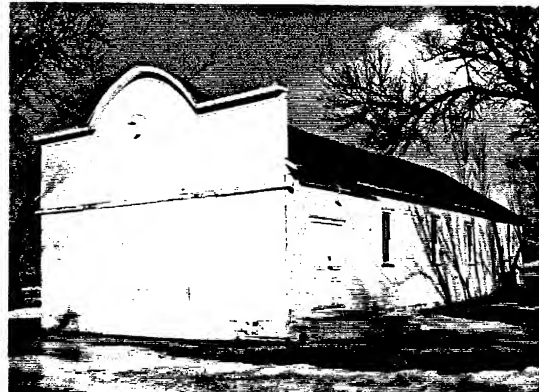
KX17-8: Commercial Building, ca. 1906. S.S. First St. bet. Sherman Ave. & Nippel Ave., Winnetoon. One-story cement block commercial building potentially significant for locally rare use of crude masonry material and for link with early 20th century retailing.



KX17-9: Commercial Building, ca. 1906. S.S. First St. bet. Sherman Ave. & Nippel Ave., Winnetoon. One-story cement block commercial building potentially significant for locally rare use of crude masonry material and for link with early 20th century retailing.



KX17-13: Commercial Building, ca. 1900. E.S. Nippel Ave. bet. 2nd St. & 3rd St., Winnetoon. Selected as a significant example of the false front compositional type and for association with the Historic Contexts of Commerce and Transportation.



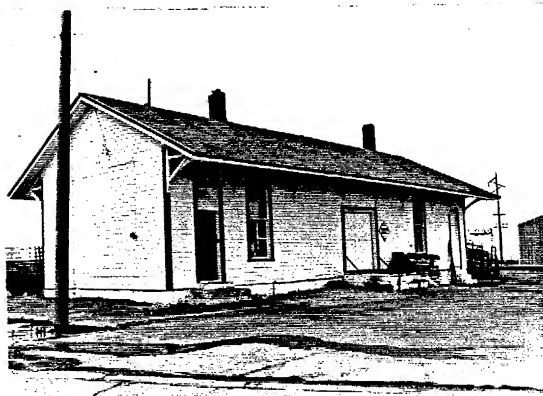
Second Priority Commerce Properties:

- KX03-7: Relocated False Front Commercial Building, ca. 1910
- KX16-32: Brick Commercial Building, ca. 1918
- KX16-39: Brick Commercial Building, ca. 1915
- KX17-17: Updyke Elevator Office, ca. 1901

Historic Context: Transportation

The historic context relating to the theme of Transportation encompasses the conveying of material and people from one place to another. This includes both the corridors (trails, roads, rails, water) and modes (non-motorized, motorized) most commonly used for the transport of goods and people. Specific building types relating to this theme are depots, gas stations, liverys, hotels, motels, auto dealerships, garages, and freight rail structures.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County recorded a total of 21 individual properties relating to the context of Transportation. A breakdown of specific functional types reveals that these 21 properties represent a broad range of transportation-related services. The majority of these buildings (13) were built as a direct response to the advent of the automobile. These include five automobile dealership/garages (KX04-50, KX13-5, KX14-18, KX16-39, KX16-40), four individual garages (KX03-6, KX04-90, KX05-16, KX14-29), and four gas stations (KX04-43, KX04-55, KX14-10, KX14-17). The remaining eight buildings consisted of three liverys (KX05-41, KX13-27, KX17-13), two passenger rail depots (KX02-1, KX04-1), two hotels (KX04-69, KX14-6), and one railroad storage building (KX16-8). Of the 21 recorded properties relating to transportation, four were considered potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and are illustrated below.

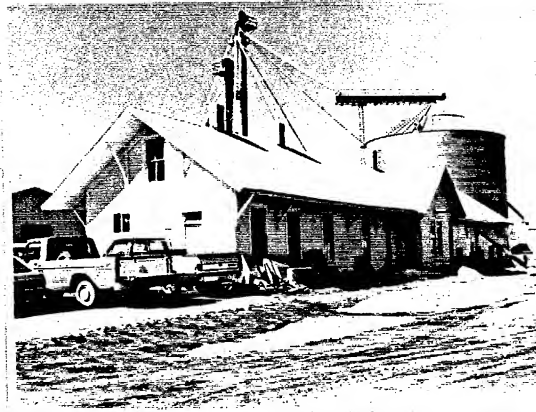


KX02-1: Chicago, St. Paul & Minneapolis Depot, ca. 1905. N. end Broadway at Railroad, Bloomfield. One-story frame passenger depot symbolic of the settlement and future economic lifeline of early 20th century Bloomfield.

KX03-6: Center Garage, ca. 1927.
N.W.C. North St. & Main St.,
Center. False front brick garage
building considered potentially
significant for links with early
automobile transportation in
central Knox County.



KX04-1: Fremont, Elkhorn &
Missouri Valley Depot, 1909. E.S.
Front St. between Main St. & State
St. One-story frame passenger
depot considered an important
factor in the early 20th century
settlement of south-central Knox
County.



KX04-43: Gas Station, ca. 1927.
N.W.C. Bryant Ave. & Main St.,
Creighton. Circa 1927 stucco gas
station included in Inventory for
association with automobile
transportation and for tudor-
inspired design aesthetic.



Historic Context: Communication

The historic theme of Communication consists of the transfer of information from location to location or from individual to individual. This would include communications through the means of telegraph, telephone, television, postal service, newspaper, and radio. Buildings which fit this context include, among others, post offices, newspaper offices, and telephone buildings. Normally, one would anticipate finding a large number of buildings which fit this context. However, the Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County recorded only six historic buildings which fit this context. These six buildings are the Union Telephone Building (KX02-37), Sparta Store and Post Office (KX11-1), Venus Store and Post Office (KX12-3), Walnut Store and Post Office (KX15-1), Verdel Post Office (KX13-1), and the Winnetoon Post Office (KX17-10). The predominant building type among these buildings was the frame false front which was found in five of the six recorded examples. Each of the six buildings mentioned above was judged potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and is illustrated below.

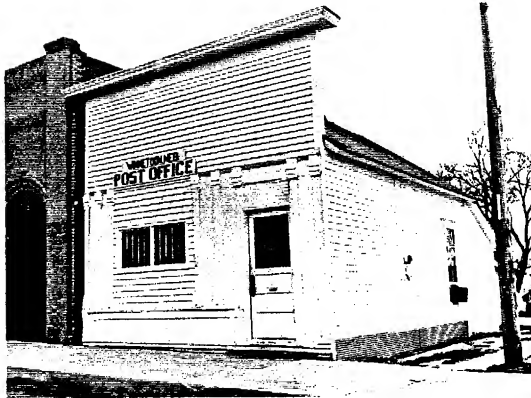


KX02-37: Union Telephone Company, 1919. S.S. Main St. bet. Broadway & Clark St., Bloomfield. The Union Telephone Company building is significant as the home of one of the earliest underground cable telephone companies in northeast Nebraska.

KX13-1: Verdel Post Office, ca. 1904. N.S. Main St. bet. Peyton Ave. & Glick Ave., Verdel. One-story false front post office significant for its role in the distribution of postal communications to northwest Knox County.



KX17-10: Winnetoon Post Office, ca. 1905. W.S. Nippel Ave. bet. 1st St. & 2nd St. Former false front bank now post office. Potentially significant for association with Historic Contexts of Communication and Commerce.



Additional Listing of Potentially Eligible Communication Properties:

- KX11-1: Sparta Store and Post Office, see Commerce Inventory X
- KX12-3: Venus Store and Post Office, see Commerce Inventory X
- KX15-1: Walnut Store and Post Office, see Commerce Inventory X

Historic Context: Utilities

The historic theme of Utilities refers to the community support services provided or controlled by government and commonly viewed as necessities. These services include the supply of gas, electricity, and water; the disposal of waste; and the protective services of fire prevention and disaster relief. Typically, these buildings do not constitute a large percentage of the properties recorded in a reconnaissance survey and indeed the Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County produced only three documented properties which fit this context. These three properties are: the Nebraska Public Power District Office and Work Shop in Creighton (KX04-56) and the Fire Hall and Utility buildings of Wausa (KX16-42, KX16-43). The most noteworthy of these buildings, and the only one judged potentially eligible for listing, is the Wausa Utility Building. This building consists of a one and one-half story brick structure with a parapet flat roof, engaged brick pilasters, and large fenestration areas on each facade. In addition to the Utility Building, the Wausa Fire Hall was considered a second priority contributor to the historic character of Knox County.



KX16-43: Wausa Utility Building, ca. 1928. S.E.C. Broadway & Lincoln St., Wausa. One and one-half story brick utility building significant for its role in the distribution of public power to early 20th century Wausa.

Historic Context: Settlement Systems

Settlement Systems is the broad contextual title encompassing the division, acquisition, and ownership of land. This theme also contains the patterns generated through political, religious, or commercial activities to facilitate the establishment of cultural systems. Not surprisingly, this topic contained the greatest number of documented historic properties within Knox County. Of the 870 total properties recorded in Knox County, 401 or 46% fall within the theme of Settlement Systems. This total appears to be fairly consistent with that of other northeast NeHBS counties containing a similar geographic size. The retention of historic integrity that these 401 properties displayed was obviously quite varied. In some instances, the integrity had been severely compromised through later alterations or additions, while in other cases buildings were recorded which were extremely similar to their original condition. The era of construction for these properties was quite diverse as well. Construction dates appear to range from the first crude pre-railroad dwellings of the 1870s to the period-revival houses of the 1930s.

The majority of the 401 settlement system properties appeared in two basic forms: (1) the simple, unadorned vernacular house and (2) the Craftsman style house built in abundance from 1915 to 1925. In addition to this, a smaller group of "high-style" houses were also observed. These style-oriented houses, with the exception of the Craftsman, occurred rather infrequently. Despite this infrequent occurrence, however, the "high-style" houses were represented by a broad range of stylistic types. These included Italianate, Stick, Shingle, Folk Victorian, Queen Anne, and a vernacularized version of Prairie Style.

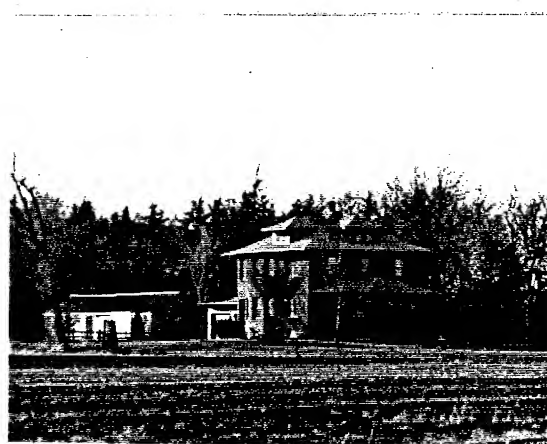
Besides accounting for the largest percentage of recorded buildings, the contextual theme of Settlement Systems also represents the largest number of properties recommended for the National Register of Historic Places. Twenty-six of the 111 properties recommended as potentially eligible for the NRHP are found in the Preliminary Inventory under the heading of Settlement Systems. The listing of these properties as well as that of 34 second priority properties is included below.



KX00-147: Farmhouse, ca. 1887.
SW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 3, T.30 N.,
R.5 W., Knox County. Circa 1887
brick house included in the
Inventory as a representative of
the late 19th century permanent
settlement of central Knox County.



KX00-163: Farmhouse, ca. 1907.
NW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 9, T.31 N.,
R.6 W., Knox County. One and one-
half story concrete block house
representative of the settlement of
the Verdigris Creek Valley in west-
central Knox County.



KX00-188: Farmhouse, ca. 1910.
NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 27, T.33 N.,
R.2 W., Knox County. Two-story
brick farmhouse potentially
significant as an example of the
larger scale post-railroad domestic
buildings constructed in the early
20th century.

KX00-192: Farmhouse, ca. 1912.
NW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 10, T.31 N.,
R.6 W., Knox County. Selected as a
potentially eligible property due
to the purported association with
the Sears pattern book houses of
the early 20th century.



KX02-19: House, ca. 1910. 512 W.
Main St., Bloomfield. Potentially
significant as a representative of
the Free-Classic subtype associated
with Queen Anne architecture and
for possible association with a
significant person.



KX02-38: House, ca. 1910. N.W.C.
Randolph St. & E. Main St.,
Bloomfield. Potentially sig-
nificant as a well-preserved
example of the Free-Classic subtype
associated with Queen Anne house
styles and for possible relation to
significant persons.



KX02-39: House, ca. 1910. N.E.C.
Randolph St. & E. Main St.,
Bloomfield. Potential significance
based on an association with
locally prominent owner and as an
example of the Queen Anne Free-
Classic house type.





KX02-49: House, ca. 1900. 201 E. Bazile St., Bloomfield. Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a simplified example of the center-gabled Gothic Revival house type and for possible association with ethnic cultures.



KX02-77: House, ca. 1910. 208 S. Clark St., Bloomfield. Large scale two-story frame house selected for the Inventory based on the potential association with a locally significant person.



KX02-54: House, ca. 1890. W.S. Washington St. bet. Grant St. & Lincoln St., Bloomfield. Potential significance derived through the presence of a locally unique supratype form and for possible late 19th century ethnic associations.



KX04-10: House, ca. 1895. S.S. State St. bet. Washington St. & Lincoln St., Creighton. This small-scale frame house was chosen as a well-preserved example of a late 19th century Hall and Parlor folk house.

KX04-24: House, ca. 1895. N.E.C. Central St. & Redick Ave., Creighton. Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a well-preserved example of the Gable Front vernacular house type with possible associations to ethnic cultures.



KX04-40: House, ca. 1907. S.S. Main St. bet. Clark St. & Bryant St., Creighton. Circa 1907 two-story house representing the early use of concrete block materials in the numerically significant "Prairie Cube" house type.

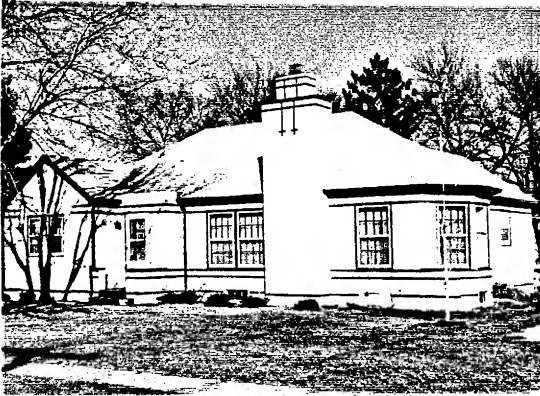


KX04-81: Harry A. Cheney House, ca. 1908. N.W.C. Bryant Ave. & Young St., Creighton. Despite compromises in historic integrity, the Cheney House is significant as a locally unique example of Stick Style domestic architecture.

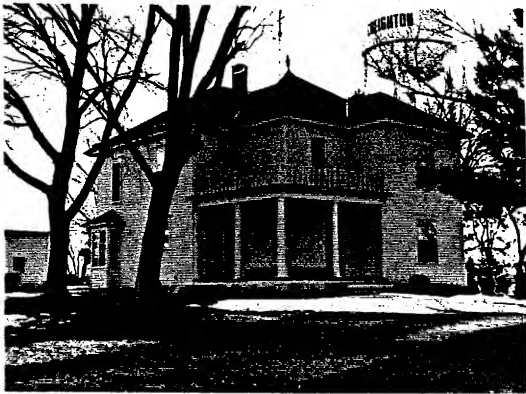


KX04-92: George Cheney House, ca. 1900. S.W.C. Bryant Ave. & Emerson St., Creighton. Potential significance derived through an association with the locally influential banker, George Cheney, and for the application of Italianate stylistic detailing.





KX04-93: House, ca. 1932. E.S. Bryant Ave. bet. Young & Emerson St., Creighton. Circa 1930s stucco residence considered potentially eligible as a locally rare example of a domestic application of Art Deco style architecture.



KX04-124: House, ca. 1905. S.E.C. Maple St. & Chase Ave., Creighton. Included in this Preliminary Inventory as a locally rare example of the Asymmetrical subtype associated with Italianate style domestic architecture.



KX05-40: House, ca. 1907. 1410 2nd St., Crofton. This property was considered important as the only domestic application of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture recorded in Knox County.



KX14-42: House, ca. 1888. 214 4th St., Verdigre. Potential significance linked to the purported first local use of masonry construction and for possible association with significant persons.

KX14-44: House, ca. 1900. 411 Fifth Ave., Verdigre. Included in the preliminary inventory for the individually unique L-shaped, cross-gambrel supratype house form and as a symbol of local permanent settlement.



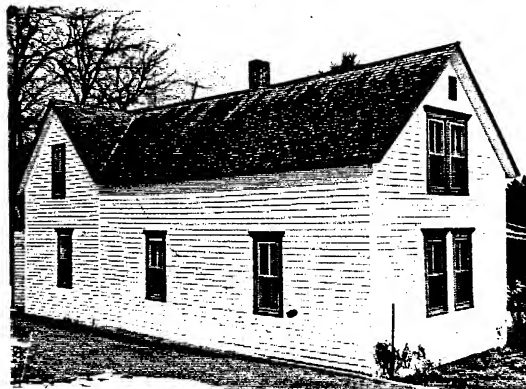
KX14-48: House, ca. 1904. 310 Third Ave., Verdigre. Included in the Preliminary Inventory as a significant example of the Gable Front and Wing subtype associated with Folk Victorian style house building.



KX14-51: House, ca. 1910. S.S. Third Ave. bet. 3rd St. & 4th St., Verdigre. Significant as a representative of the Free-Classic subtype associated with Queen Anne style architecture and for possible association with significant persons.



KX14-77: House, ca. 1895. 302 Fourth Ave., Verdigre. A well-preserved example of a late 19th century Gable Front and Wing house type with possible associations to ethnic cultures.

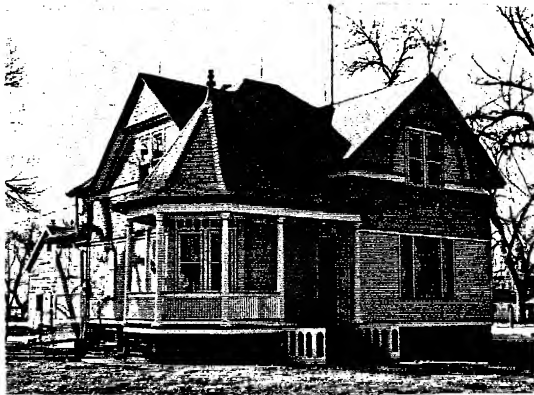




KX14-90: House, ca. 1900. 600 Fifth Ave., Verdigre. Two-story frame house chosen as a significant example of Italianate domestic architecture and for possible association with significant persons.



KX16-106: House, ca. 1908. 505 Lincoln St., Wausa. A locally unique example of masonry residential building as constructed during the early 20th century settlement period.



KX17-7: House, ca. 1906. W.S. Sherman Ave. bet. First St. & Second St., Winnetoon. Potentially eligible as a representative of the Free-Classic subtype associated with Queen Anne style architecture and for possible association with a locally significant person.

Second Priority Settlement Systems Properties:

X KX00-146	X KX02-60
X KX00-229	X KX02-61
X KX00-303	X KX02-63
X KX02-40	X KX02-64
X KX02-59	X KX02-75

Second Priority Settlement Systems Properties (Continued):

KX02-76	X	KX04-106	X
KX02-62	X	KX04-108	X
KX02-78	X	KX04-115	X
KX02-84	X	KX04-117	X
KX04-26	X	KX13-28	X
KX04-33	X	KX13-29	X
KX04-67	X	KX14-33	X
KX04-75	X	KX14-34	X
KX04-77	X	KX14-74	X
KX04-88	X	KX14-85	X
KX04-89	X	KX16-117	X
KX04-101	X	KX17-5	X

Historic Context: Ethnic Groups

Due to a change in the survey policy of the Nebraska State Historic Preservation office (NeSHPO), the development of ethnic-related Historic Context Reports and subsequent intensive study of ethnic buildings has not been included in the Historic Buildings Survey of Knox County. Instead, the NeSHPO has chosen to complete a 100% reconnaissance survey to first determine the status of extant resources and then follow up with intensive studies of those buildings targeted by the reconnaissance survey as potentially significant for their association with identified ethnic cultures. Consequently, the discussion of potentially significant ethnic cultures and ethnic properties is not included in the Preliminary Inventory under the heading of Ethnic Groups but is found in the Recommendations for Future Work discussed in the following pages.

General Summary Part 2:

A Supratype Summary of Knox County House Types

It is no surprise that domestic architecture is the most frequently recorded resource in reconnaissance-level surveys. The Knox County survey was no exception producing a total of 600 residential resources. This total represents 31.3% of the 1,916 contributing buildings recorded within the study area. The preservation of this building type can be attributed to the continuing social need for shelter and the predominant location of residences in towns where the opportunity for occupancy is greater. The recording of residential buildings in the Knox County survey included not only occupied resources, but abandoned as well. In addition, all houses that were surveyed as part of a church site or farmstead were included in the aforementioned totals.

In consideration of the large abundance of these resources and in an attempt to avoid "stylistic" designations, the method of Core Supratype Analysis (as developed by the Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee, D. Murphy: 1985) has been implemented. The supratype analysis eliminates the subjective labeling of domestic buildings according to "style" and imposes instead, an objective description based on the primary external mass of the house. To best define the components of this method, an excerpt from the South Bottoms Historic District National Register Nomination (D. Murphy: 1987, 1-4) is included below.

The supratype is a categorization based exclusively on the external massing of houses, similar to that first developed by Kniffen (1936) under the ruberick of "type." The term "supra-type" is applied here to distinguish it from the more current methods of type analysis which are based on form, that is, on external massing and internal space, such as that developed by Glassie (1975).

Core supratypes are defined by combinations of five massing elements as applied to the core structure of houses. Core structure is defined as the predominant mass element which cannot be further subdivided (Figure 2). In general, core refers to that portion of a house which is exclusive of wings and porches. The mass elements which compose the core include

its shape, relative size, wall height, roof type, and its orientation on the site.

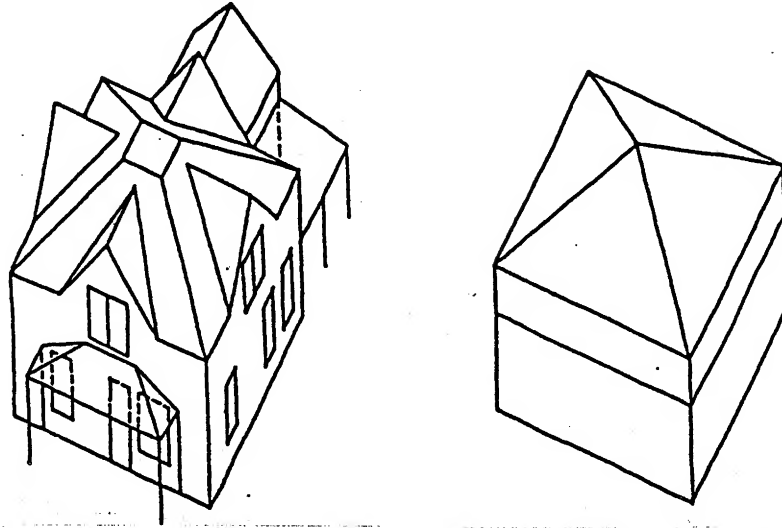


Fig. 2. The core structure derived from the house (after Murphy).

Shape designations for core structures are geometric, based on the ground-level outline of the core. Designations include square (S), rectangular (R), tee-shaped (T), ell-shaped (L), cross-shaped (X), U-shaped (U), polygonal (P), H-shaped (H), courtyard (C), irregular (I), and circular (O).

The horizontal size of the core is related to a need to distinguish large houses from small ones. Size, in the supratypal method, refers to horizontal dimension and is applied only to the narrowest dimension of the core, or to its width. While actual dimensions are recorded, houses are sorted based upon "units" of measurement which approximate the number of rooms a given width normally could contain (e.g., one, one with hall, two rooms, etc.). Units of width in the South Bottoms Historic District are defined as 0.5 (less than 14 ft.), 1.0 (14-19 ft.), 1.5 (20-29 ft.), 2.0 (30-39 ft.), and 2.5 (40 ft. or greater).

The second measurement of size involves the height of the core. We designate this dimension in terms of stories, even though it is based exclusively on the height of the external wall, not on the amount of usable internal space. The measurement is based on the facade wall, the top of which is expressed

by the eave line (Figure 3). Thus attics, the space beneath a sloping roof, are not considered in determinations of height.

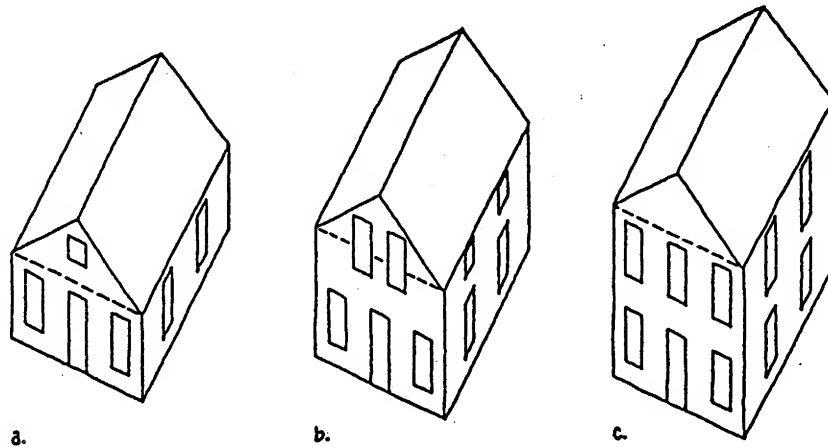


Fig. 3. Wall height guidelines illustrated, note the eave line: a) one story, b) one-and-one-half story, c) two story (after Murphy).

The fourth massing element is roof type. These are so well known that they need little explanation. The supratypal method utilizes only four generic types for simplicity, subsuming under these all the variants (Figure 4). The four types include flat (F), shed (S), hipped (H, including pyramidal and mansard), and gabled (G, including gambrel and gerkinhead).

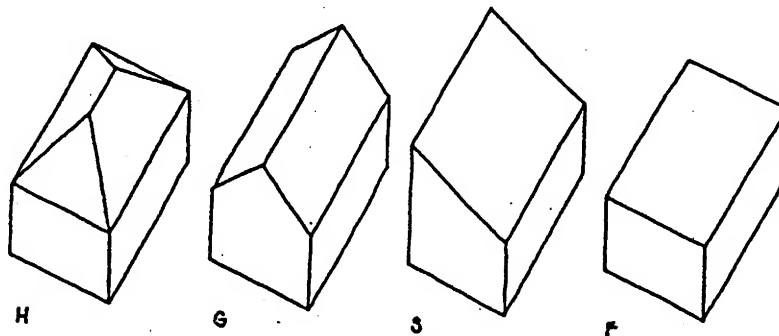


Fig. 4. Generic roof types: H: hipped; G: gable; S: shed; F: flat (after Murphy).

The last aspect of mass used in describing core supratypes involves the orientation of the core on the site, relative to

its facade. Facade is defined as that wall which is the architectural front of the house, facing the road or the street, which is usually but not always more highly decorated. Facades also usually but not always incorporate the main entrance. Orientation is expressed in latitudinal (La), longitudinal (Lo), and non-applicable (Na) terms. There are several core shapes for which orientation is not applicable. Since only two shapes, the square (S) and the rectangular (R), are statistically significant in South Bottoms, orientation will be discussed only for those two here.

For rectangular shapes, if the narrow (gable) end faces the street, the axis of its roof is perpendicular to the street. Its orientation is then termed longitudinal (Lo). If the eave side faces the street, its roof ridge runs parallel to the street and its orientation is described as latitudinal (La). Orientation is always applicable for rectangular cores.

For square shapes (S), where both the front and side dimensions are equal, we would normally consider orientation to be non-applicable (Na). This is true for squares with hipped or pyramidal roofs. However, if the square core is sheltered by a gable roof, the ridge provides an illusion of orientation as though it were rectangular in shape. Therefore, square shapes with gable roofs have orientation recorded in the same fashion as that for rectangular cores.

In summary, core supratypes are external massing categorizations applied to the core structure of houses. Core structure is the predominant mass element which cannot be further subdivided (that portion of the house exclusive of subordinate wings and porches). Five massing aspects of the core are used to derive the supertype—its shape, relative size, height, roof type, and orientation. Particular combinations of these aspects are designated numerically (S.#). (D. Murphy: South Bottoms Historic District National Register Nomination, 1987, 1-4).

Knox County House Types

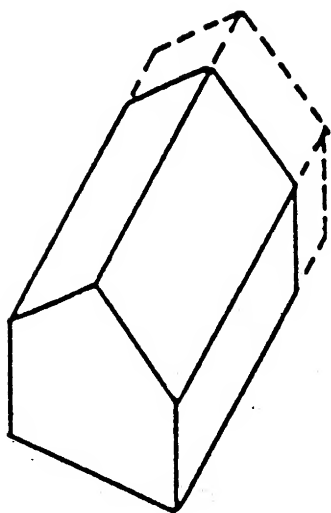
The use of the Core Supratype analysis in the reconnaissance-level survey proved beneficial in that it created an objective process of interpretation for the recording of historic residences. The residential properties documented in the Knox County survey are represented by 98 different supratypes. A numerical designation has been assigned to each of these 98 types (e.g., S.1, S.2, S.3, etc.). A master list of the 98 individual types is included in this report as Appendix 2.

While 98 various supratypes may seem like a varied lot for 600 total resources, a somewhat more narrow group actually represents the majority of the documented properties. In fact, 17 supratype categories account for 65% of all recorded sites. Furthermore, 43% of all Knox County houses fit into one of only seven supratype categories. The supratype recording of historic houses has produced a large volume of data which can be analyzed in an infinite number of ways. However, in an attempt to present a concise and useful summary of the supratype data, Save America's Heritage has focused on the answers to two basic questions. These are:

1. What were the numerically significant supratypes of the entire county?
2. What were the numerically significant supratypes of town locations versus those of rural locations?

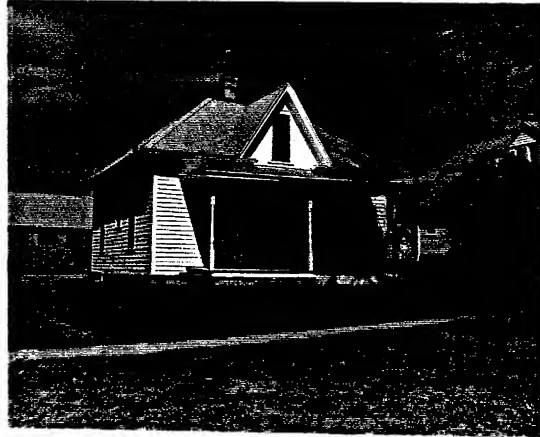
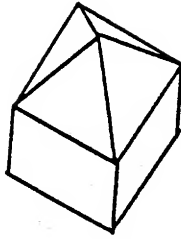
To answer these questions, a numerical analysis of the 98 supratypes was performed to derive a minimum level of significance. With a survey total of 600 houses, this minimum level was established at 4.5% necessitating a representation of 27 or more houses. Of the 98 supratypes generated by the Knox County survey, six individual types exceed the 4.5% level and are summarized in the following discussion.

Supratype 41



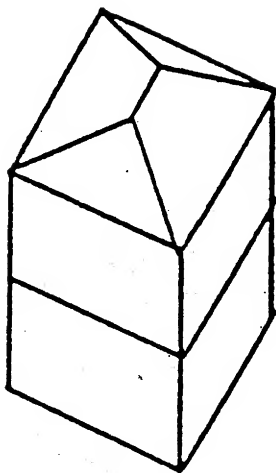
Supratype No. 41; R, 1.5u, 1.0s, G, Lo. Among the 98 supratypes present in Knox County, Supratype No. 41 was the most frequently recorded house form representing 9.2% of the 600 surveyed houses. The essential characteristics of this type consist of a rectangular-shaped core with the narrowest dimension ranging from 20 to 29 feet, a height of one story, and a gable roof running in a longitudinal orientation. This house type appears to have been started in the early settlement years of the 1890s and was carried into the 1920s where it was more commonly adorned with "craftsman" decorative motifs. The strong representation of this house type is due mostly to its predominant use in town locations. In fact, this type appeared in 12% of the 382 houses recorded in the nine Knox County towns and was only documented in 4% of the rural properties.

Supratype 77



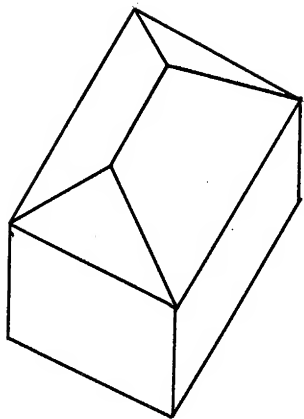
Supratype No. 77; S, 1.5u, 1.0s, H, N. The second most frequently recorded house type in Knox County was Supratype 77. This type was found in 7.3% of all surveyed houses in Knox County but is more significantly represented in towns (8.9%) than rural locations (4.6%). This type is generically referred to as a "one-story hipped roof square" and presumably consists of a four-room square plan. The width of the structure ranges from 20 to 29 feet and is usually capped by a steeply pitched hip roof. This house type was a dominant form primarily used in the early decades of the 20th century. Some of the urban examples had stylistic detailing in hints of Victorian (usually Queen Anne), but mostly they exist as unadorned folk houses.

Supratype 86



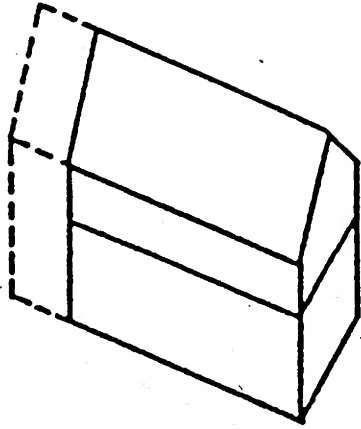
Also numerically significant among Knox County house types is Supratype 86, the "popular" two-story square. The two-story square was a popular choice among many Nebraska builders of the early 20th century. Therefore, it is not surprising that Supratype 86 was tied for second as the most frequently documented house form in Knox County representing 7.3% of all recorded properties. The S.86 consists of a 1.5 unit (20-29 ft.) square core making it the largest of the numerically significant houses of Knox County. The essential characteristics defining this type are a wide square-shaped core rising to two stories in height and covered with a hipped roof. Additive features common to this type are frontal porches, bay windows, and hipped dormers.

Supratype 47



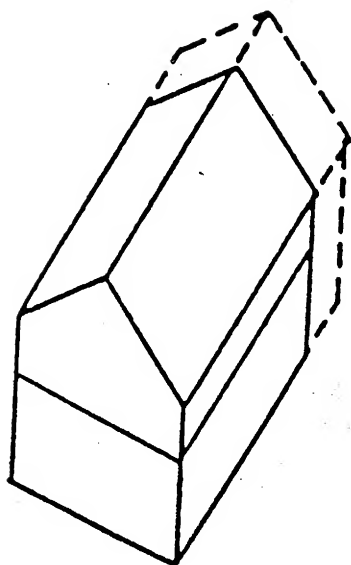
Supratype No. 47; R, 1.5u, 1.0s, H, Lo. Supratype 47 was the fourth most frequently recorded house type in Knox County (5.2%), and differs only slightly from the aforementioned S.41. Both the S.47 and S.41 have an identical rectangular core mass of one-story height and one and one-half unit gable ends (20 to 29 feet). In addition, both types are placed in a longitudinal relationship to the street. The only difference between these two types is found in the roof form. The more popular S.41 is covered with a gable roof while the S.47 is capped with a hip roof form. Further similarities are found in the distributional locations of these types. Like S.41, this type was predominantly constructed in town locations. Of the 382 houses found in the towns of Knox County, 7.6% consisted of the S.47 shape. Conversely, this type represented an insignificant 1.1% of the 218 rural-based houses.

Supratype 36



Supratype No. 36; R, 1.0u, 1.5s, G, La. Supratype 36 represents the fifth most numerically significant house type (5.0%) among the 98 types generated by the Knox County survey. The essential characteristics of the S.36 are a one and one-half story rectangular core placed in latitudinal orientation with a side gable-end ranging in width from 14 to 19 feet. Most often these types contained a perpendicular rear wing of shorter height which was, for the most part, visually obstructed by the latitudinal core. These houses were found mostly in rural locations (8.7%) rather than town locations (2.9%) and appear to be one of the more popular forms of shelter employed by the first settlers (ca. 1880 to 1890).

Supratype 53



Supratype No. 53; R, 1.5u, 1.5s, G, Lo. The sixth and final house type surpassing the 4.5% limit of significance is Supratype No. 53. This type represents 4.8% of the 600 houses recorded within Knox County and consists of rectangular-shaped core one and one-half stories in height capped by a gable roof. The core of the house is placed in a longitudinal orientation to the street with the front gable-end ranging in width from 20 to 29 feet. These houses were distributed evenly between towns (5.0%) and rural locations (4.6%). In general, these houses appear to have been employed during the initial settlement periods of 1880 through 1900. They are more commonly recognized as the vernacular "upright-with-wing" whereby a shorter side gable wing was attached in a perpendicular relation to the core.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

Throughout the duration of the Knox County survey, random observations were recorded in an effort to later construct recommendations for future work. The general impressions recorded by the survey team were then combined with a post-survey analysis of documented historic properties. The resulting recommendations were conceptualized by Save America's Heritage to fit the "tools" of preservation and documentation available to the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office. These tools consist of Multiple Property, Historic District, and individual nominations to the NRHP as well as intensive survey relating to Historic Context Reports.

The following suggestions are separated into two categories and are presented as follows: 1) NeSHPO National Register Follow-Up, and 2) Potential Thematic Studies.

National Register Recommendations

The first of the two categories, the NeSHPO National Register Follow-Up, is a basic summary of the potential National Register of Historic Places listing activities associated with the Knox County survey.

Save America's Heritage strongly suggests the drafting of nominations for all properties judged by NeSHPO staff as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The drafting of these nominations may occur in two basic forms. First, as Multiple Property nominations for all buildings which relate to Historic Contexts developed by the NeSHPO, or as individual nominations of the 203 properties listed in the Recommendations for Future Work and Preliminary Inventory of Knox County historic buildings. The properties which appear in the Preliminary Inventory are those which appear potentially eligible for the National Register and should be acted upon immediately following the submittal of this report.

Potential Thematic Studies/Multiple Property Nominations

The following priorities for future work recommended by Save America's Heritage are listed thematically. These themes are presented at this point as those which appear to have the greatest potential for

development into Historic Context Reports. The basis for these suggestions were derived from presurvey research, agricultural analyses, and Reconnaissance Survey observations.

1. Criterion D Research Properties

The first subject for potential thematic study is centered around a group of 15 historic properties which, for various reasons, are being presented under the title of Criterion D Research Properties. This title implies that these properties have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to the history of Knox County. The inclusion of these properties under the "Research" heading may receive some criticism for it is true that all properties included in the Preliminary Inventory of a Reconnaissance Report are, in a sense, "research properties." However, these 15 properties represent an exceptionally important and rare group of late 19th century buildings significant for their portrayal of the early permanent settlement buildings of Knox County.

All of these properties appear to have been built between the years of 1870 and 1895 and are characteristic of the folk or vernacular buildings of this early settlement period. They consist of buildings constructed from infrequently documented materials such as log, stone, brick, and cement. Their importance is rooted in their potential to yield information relevant to the dwelling types of the pre-railroad settlement of Knox County and for possible association with significant ethnic cultures.

Unfortunately, their eligibility for National Register listing is somewhat in question due to their abandoned and often extremely deteriorated condition. Because of their current state of deterioration, the continued existence of these properties is very much in doubt. They are threatened not only by the possibility of human destruction but also by the ravages of the northeast Nebraska environment. Consequently, Save America's Heritage urges the immediate undertaking of intensive surveys for each of the properties presented in the following Inventory and suggests that, after such surveys, these properties be placed in a Historic Context previously identified by the NeSHPO.



X **KX00-126:** Log House & Stone Barn



X **KX00-157:** Log House



X **KX00-162:** Brick House



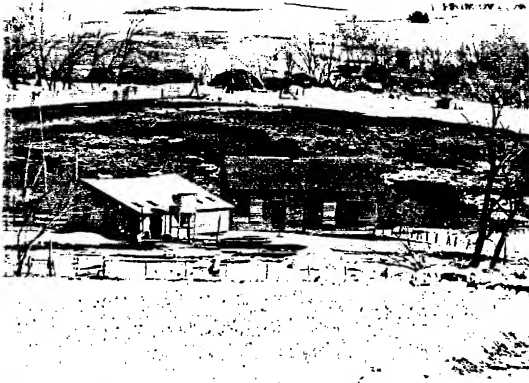
X **KX00-173:** Collapsed Log House



X **KX00-175:** Abandoned Farmstead



X **KX00-186:** Abandoned Farmstead



X **KX00-51: Abandoned House**



X **KX00-217: Log House**



X **KX00-249: Underground House**



X **KX00-307: Abandoned Farmstead**

Additional Listing of Criterion D Research Properties:

- X **KX00-50:** Abandoned Farm, purported home of Jules Sandoz
- X **KX00-53:** Abandoned Farm with Banked Barn
- X **KX00-197:** Leonard Wiegand House and Stone Chicken House, 1878
- X **KX00-208:** Abandoned Farmstead
- X **KX00-252:** Abandoned Upright-with-Wing Farmhouse

2. Ethnic Groups in Knox County

The selection of specific ethnic groups to be intensively studied during the Historic Buildings Surveys of northeast Nebraska counties has heretofore been determined by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO) and incorporated into the contractual agreements outlining such surveys. However, in the case of the Knox County Historic Buildings Survey, the selection and intensive study of the buildings created by an ethnic group or groups was not included in the Project Work Program outlined in the Contractual Agreement. Instead, the NeSHPO has chosen to complete a 100% reconnaissance survey to first determine the status of extant resources and then follow up with intensive studies of those ethnic buildings targeted by the reconnaissance survey as potentially significant for their association with identified ethnic cultures. The identification of these ethnic cultures was preliminarily derived through pre-field research.

Information on the numbers of foreign-born persons was taken from Wayne Wheeler's compilation of census data. Since no detailed census analysis was performed, the locations of various ethnic settlements within the county must be inferred, primarily from county and ethnic histories and other secondary sources. Evidence of the various groups' presence is indicated by the institutions which they founded. Churches, cemeteries, and fraternal organizations are examples of such institutions. In some cases, secondary sources mention specific ethnic groups as having settled in a particular area. In any event, a precinct-by-precinct census analysis should be performed to obtain a more precise picture of ethnic settlement within the county.

The 1880 census was the first census for which Wheeler lists data. In that year the foreign born comprised 13% of the county's total population. By 1890 the foreign born percentage had increased to 22% of the county's total. In this census year the percentage of foreign born peaked. As the influx of foreign-born settlers slowed and the children of the foreign born were born in the U.S., the percentages of foreign-born persons in Knox County decreased. By 1910 the foreign-born population had decreased to 17% of the total population.

An overview of the three applicable census years included in Wheeler's compilations (1880, 1890, 1910) shows that three particular ethnic groups were represented in numerically significant amounts. These three groups were: 1) Germans, 2) Swedes, and 3) Bohemians. Based upon an analysis of the Knox County Historic Buildings Survey results and the review of Wayne Wheeler's census compilations, Save America's Heritage is recommending the investigation of these three ethnic cultures for future development as Historic Context Reports. A brief discussion of these groups and an Inventory of their potentially associated properties are included in the following discussions.

German and German-American Culture in Knox County

The Germans were the most numerous foreign-born group in Knox County as they were in Nebraska as a whole. In the 1880 census, German-born persons comprised nearly half (47%) of the total foreign-born population. The percentage decreased to 32% in 1890 but rose in succeeding census years to 39% of the foreign-born population in 1910.

A number of Germans lived in the Wausa area and established the Golgatha Lutheran Church there. Another German Lutheran congregation established St. Marks Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bloomfield. Services were held in German until 1918 when a gradual shift to English Language services began. Other Germans settled in the Pishelville area in a locale which was predominantly Bohemian. However, it is the area in east-central Knox County adjacent to and including the community of Bloomfield which appears to exhibit the greatest potential for the future development of the German and German-American Culture Historic Context Report. Save America's Heritage has preliminarily identified 18 properties within the aforementioned area which may bear an association to German culture. Of these 18 potential German properties, 12 have been listed below according to their NeHBS site number while the remaining six are portrayed with photographs.

~~X~~ KX00-235

~~X~~ KX00-238

~~X~~ KX00-239

~~X~~ KX00-241

~~X~~ KX00-242

~~X~~ KX00-243

~~X~~ KX00-244

~~X~~ KX00-262

~~X~~ KX00-266

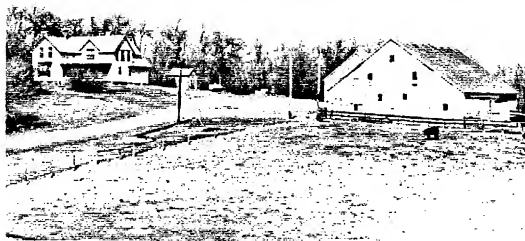
~~X~~ KX00-267

~~X~~ KX00-268

~~X~~ KX00-302



X KX00-236:



X KX00-240:



X KX00-264:



X KX00-265:



X KX00-269:



X KX00-273:

Swedish and Swedish-American Culture in Knox County

Information on the numbers of Swedish-born persons in Knox County was derived from Wayne Wheeler's An Almanac of Nebraska: Nationality, Ethnic and Racial Groups (1975). While Wheeler has organized the data according to the 10-year intervals of census records dating from 1870 to 1950, it is the data for the years 1880, 1890, 1900, and 1910 which were of greatest interest to the survey team.

Wheeler combines the numbers of Swedish- and Norwegian-born persons in his 1880 census data. These combined numbers make them the second largest foreign-born group in the county in that year. In 1890 Swedes comprised the third largest foreign-born group. Numbers of Swedes increased greatly between 1890 and 1910 and in these census years the Swedish-born population was the second largest foreign-born group in Knox County.

The town of Oakland in Burt County became a starting point for Swedish colonization in and around Wausa. The first Swede in the area is said to have been T. T. Thorson who came to the area from Minnesota in 1881. It was through him two Augustana Lutheran Synod clergymen learned of the area and subsequently promoted Swedish settlement there.

The clergy and land agents were often engaged in a friendly partnership and this spirit of cooperation was continued in the Wausa area. One of the clergymen promoting Swedish settlement engaged in an agreement by which only Swedes would be allowed to buy land during a certain definite period. The result of this agreement was a concentration of Swedish settlers in the Wausa area (Nelson, p. 292; Dowie, p. 60).

The approximate boundaries of Swedish settlement included the area near Wausa and extending eastward into Cedar County "in a somewhat irregularly shaped area that extends six miles east north and west of Wausa and 2.5 miles southward over a surface of about 100 square miles" (Nelson, p. 291). In this area four-fifths of the farmers were of Swedish descent in the 1940s.

Due to the statistical evidence of Swedish-born settlers in southeastern Knox County, the survey team from Save America's Heritage made a concentrated effort to record property types bearing a potential associa-

tion with Swedish or Swedish-American culture. The visual recognition of Swedish-associated properties is obviously a debatable subject. However, based on the results of previous intensive and reconnaissance survey work on Swedish properties in Dixon, Dakota, and Washington Counties, a preliminary set of Swedish-associated house types has been established and is being continually scrutinized for validity. The group of Swedish-associated house form types documented to date consist primarily of latitudinally oriented rectangular and T-shaped plans, one unit in width (14-19 feet), and one and one-half stories tall with a centrally placed gable wall dormer (see Figure 5).



Fig. 5. Fred Peterson House, ca. 1905, rural Dixon County, Nebraska (DX00-12).

In most cases, the central wall dormer is of the continuous eave (gabled) variety and is typically placed over a central entry. Romantic detailing is often seen in sawtooth fascia moldings, eastlake front porches, and front gable scrollworks.

An overly generous list of 52 potential Swedish or Swedish-American properties has been compiled from the results of the Knox County Historic Buildings Survey. This list is purposely generous in an attempt to include not only those properties in southeast Knox County resembling the established Swedish house types, but also to include properties in a Swedish-settled enclave which were atypical of the previously documented

Swedish house types. Of the 52 properties earmarked for future work, 49 of these are found in either the community of Wausa or a 10-mile radius of rural land surrounding Wausa. The remaining three properties are located in the more predominantly German community of Bloomfield.



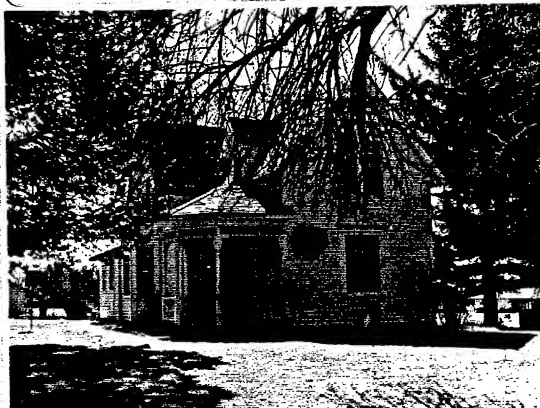
KX00-234:



KX16-60:



KX16-17:



KX16-52:



KX16-62:



KX16-119:



KX16-56:

KX16-61:

Additional Listing of Potential Swedish-Associated Properties:

~~KX00-238~~

~~KX00-251~~

~~KX00-256~~

~~KX00-272~~

~~KX00-277~~

~~KX00-278~~

~~KX00-279~~

~~KX00-282~~

~~KX00-283~~

~~KX00-284~~

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~~KX02-51~~

~~KX02-53~~

~~KX02-83~~

~~KX16-7~~

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~~KX16-76~~

~~KX16-91~~

~~KX16-95~~

~~KX16-102~~

~~KX16-112~~

~~KX16-118~~

~~KX16-3~~

Bohemian and Bohemian-American Culture in Knox County

Information on the numbers of Bohemian-born persons in Knox County was derived from Wayne Wheeler's An Almanac of Nebraska: Nationality, Ethnic and Racial Groups (1975). While Wheeler has organized the data according to the 10-year intervals of census records dating from 1870 to 1950, it is the data for the years 1880, 1890, 1900, and 1910 which were of greatest interest to the survey team.

Wheeler lists no Bohemian-born persons in 1880. This appears to be an error since other sources clearly indicate substantial numbers of Bohemians settling in the county very early on (Rosicky and Van Hoff). Wheeler's figures list Bohemian-born persons as the second largest foreign-born group in the county in 1890 and the third largest in 1900. Again, in the 1910 census there are no Bohemian-born persons listed, yet, in the 1920 census there were large numbers of Czech-born persons in the data.

It was in 1868 representatives of a Bohemian colonization club from Chicago reported favorably to their members on the Niobrara River Valley in what is now Knox County. Two expeditions of settlers arrived in the valley the following year, one in July and the second in November. A third group of colonists arrived in the spring of 1870 (Rosicky, p. 184). The earliest settlers suffered many hardships but more and more Czechs arrived to take up the challenge of the new land.

Many of the Czech settlers in Knox County were "freethinkers." These people saw no need to practice the state (Catholic) religion of their homeland (Van Hoff, p. 20). In these communities the establishment of fraternal lodges indicated a commitment to the community's permanence and played a significant role in the cultural and social life of the community. Czech fraternal lodges were established in Niobrara, Pishelville, Verdel, and Verdigre (Murphy, n.p.; Svoboda, pp. 181-182). Bohemian National Cemeteries were also established for those not of the Catholic faith. These cemeteries were founded in Jelen and Verdigre (Svoboda, pp. 187-188). A smaller number of Czechs continued to practice the religion of their homeland and established the Catholic Church and Catholic Fraternal Society in Verdigre (Svoboda, pp. 183, 185).

By the 1930s Czechs and their descendants were concentrated in Verdigre, Bohemia, Western, Sparta, Jefferson, Washington, and Niobrara townships. The "most Czech" town in the county was Verdigre where 90% of the population was Czech (Van Hoff, p. 2).

Due to the statistical evidence of Bohemian-born settlers in western Knox County, Save America's Heritage strongly urges the development of the Bohemian and Bohemian-American Historic Context Report and suggests that the initial investigation of potential Bohemian properties begins with the 12 properties listed below. These 12 properties vary in their suspected degree of association with Bohemian culture. Reconnaissance survey field notes show that some properties (KX00-59, KX00-89) contain a documented association with Bohemian culture while others (KX00-94, KX00-93) are included merely for their location in a predominantly Bohemian rural enclave. Of the 12 properties listed below, nine have photographically portrayed in an attempt to convey a greater sense of their visual characteristics. The remaining three properties with potential association to Bohemian culture are then listed at the conclusion of the photographic summary.



X KX00-59: Three-Room Log House



X KX00-72: Abandoned Farmhouse



KX00-75: Abandoned House



KX00-89: Joseph Jelinek House



KX00-92: Abandoned Farmhouse



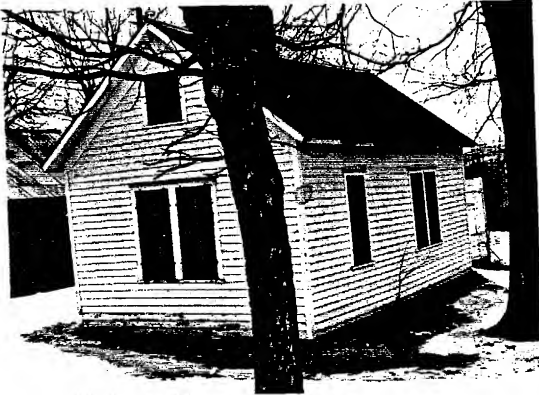
KX00-94: Abandoned Farmstead



KX00-116: Abandoned Farmstead



KX14-37: Banked Frame House



KX14-47: Frame House

Additional Listing of Potential Bohemian Properties:

- XKX00-70: Farmstead
- XKX00-93: Abandoned Schoolhouse
- XKX00-115: Farmstead
- XKX11-1: Sparta Store
- XKX14: Verdigre - Predominantly Bohemian-born community worthy of intensive research to determine properties of known Bohemian cultural association.

APPENDIX 1

**A RESEARCH DESIGN
FOR THE
HISTORIC BUILDINGS SURVEY
OF
KNOX COUNTY**

RECONNAISSANCE RESEARCH DESIGN

1. Introduction

It is the intention of this paper to contribute two important functions towards the execution of the Reconnaissance Survey of Knox County. First, it will provide Save America's Heritage (SAVE) survey team with the guidelines by which the survey will be performed and secondly, it establishes a means of communicating these guidelines to NeSHPO project managers for critique and refinement.

The format of this Research Design will be to discuss first the "non-mechanical" aspects of the survey, followed by a discussion of the tasks considered more "mechanical" in nature. The primary purpose of the "mechanical" discussion is to define the documentation process used in the recording of historic properties while the "non-mechanical" discussion will consist of the survey objectives and limitations.

2. Objectives Of Reconnaissance Survey

After completing a preliminary outline of the objectives associated with a reconnaissance survey, it became apparent that there was an obvious division between those objectives which were qualitative in nature and those that were quantitative. This division has organized the reconnaissance objectives into the two listings that follow.

Qualitative Objectives:

The most obvious objective of a reconnaissance-level survey is the concept of providing a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in a particular geographic area. Beyond this are several other very important objectives which may be used to enhance both the importance of the information generated by the reconnaissance-level survey and the importance of the survey itself. First among these additional objectives is the concept of establishing the setting of Nebraska's multi-contextual historic architecture. Each historic building survey performed will generate information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background which future survey information can be evaluated with.

Secondly, it is the objective of the historic building survey to identify specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the above-mentioned multi-context setting. Further qualitative objectives include: the possible identification of specific building types, the identification of construction methodologies which may relate to or are unique to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture, the identification of sites worthy of National Register listing, and the expansion of knowledge relative to a specific geographic area within the state context such as ethnic settlement, building technologies and architectural image.

Outline of Qualitative Objectives:

- A. To create a community awareness and interest in Historic Preservation and the National Register of Historic Places.
- B. The documentation of several significant sites which will eventually be placed on the NRHP as individual, thematic, or district nominations.
- C. To document site information concerning building typologies in a format consistent with the NeSHPO Topical Listing, which can be used as an organizing element in the Final Report and Preliminary Inventory.
- D. To record any potential links between a particular ethnic settlement and its associated architectural images within the survey area.
- E. To complete a comprehensive, conscientious survey which will generate information useful to the planning process and future surveys.
- F. The collation of survey data for planning intensive survey and relating of information into the contextual frameworks.
- G. To promote historic preservation through the identification of the historic properties located within the county.
- H. To record information useful to the local planning decisions of the county when assessing projects affecting historic structures.
- I. To identify properties whose owners may be eligible for various kinds of federal, state, and local assistance in the event the owner

pursues the preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation of their historic building(s).

Quantitative Objectives:

- A. The recording of an estimated 800 sites in Knox County at the completion of the survey.
- B. The covering of approximately 435,200 acres (680 sq. miles) in Knox County. In addition, all nine towns in Knox County will be surveyed.
- C. Identification of at least 50 sites worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- D. Identification of at least one possible Thematic or Multiple Resource nomination worthy of National Register pursuit.
- E. Evaluating by the following hierarchy those sites for a) high potential for significance, b) suspicious buildings--those buildings that may be of significance, c) no potential in comparison to others, d) those sites not likely to yield any information.

3. Methods Of Reconnaissance Survey

The "mechanical" aspect of reconnaissance historic building surveys will focus primarily upon the documentation process and corresponding methods used in the recording of historical resources. The recording technique is considered of prime importance and it is the attitude of Save America's Heritage to strive for a conscientious effort and accurate method while recording historic resources. To best communicate our intentions, the following discussion on survey methods has been organized into three groups. These are 1) pre-field research, 2) pre-field activities, and 3) field activities.

Pre-Field Research:

Following the selection of the survey's geographic boundaries by the NeSHPO, the pre-field research is begun and focuses primarily on the performance of archival research. The main purpose of archival research is to identify the nature of the survey area's settlement by culture, geographic location, and time frame. In addition, the archival research

should attempt to identify potential themes of architectural, cultural, and historical significance within the survey area, should they exist. While it is acknowledged that the extent and availability of research information varies according to the events and background of the area, the following references will be investigated prior to the reconnaissance survey: locally written county histories, county histories written within a statewide history, existing survey data in the NeSHPO site files including survey forms, the files of the NSHS photographic collections, centennial publications on community and church histories, archival maps and atlases, newspaper articles concerning a community's built environment, and literature published by local or county historical groups. The majority of these types of publications can be found in the libraries of state and county historical societies. A bibliography of all sources referenced should be maintained and, along with photocopied information, added to the site files. These general data files are organized according to specific counties, local communities, and individual sites. The files are used prior to reconnaissance survey to familiarize the surveyors with the survey area and are consulted again in the field during the survey. Added to the general files are all forms of public correspondence received up to the point the survey is begun.

Due to the absence of an existing Historic Overview report, extensive preparation becomes necessary to satisfactorily develop the concepts of the report. The content of the Historic Overview is considered a prime source of pre-survey information. Therefore, the following is an outline of the methodology to be employed by SAVE's personnel during the composition of the county Historic Overview.

Each Historic Overview report will identify important patterns, events, persons, or cultural values pertaining to the county. It is anticipated that the information within the Historic Overview will aid in the identification of property types associated with each individual theme. In the preparation of the Historic Overview, the following will be considered:

- A. Trends in area settlement and development.
- B. Aesthetic and artistic values embodied in architecture, construction technology, or craftsmanship.
- C. Research values or problems relevant to the county, social and physical sciences and humanities, and cultural interests of local communities.
- D. Intangible cultural values of ethnic groups and native American people.

Pre-Field Activities:

The topic of pre-field activities are considered separate from pre-field research on the basis of their more publicly extroverted nature. Save America's Heritage will begin the pre-field activities with the distribution of notices announcing the survey and its intentions to all the general public. This will be done by placing general notices in established commercial and non-commercial facilities of the communities, such as the U.S. Post Office, grocery stores, donut shops, etc. Reinforcing this is the dispersal of press releases to all active newspapers existing in the county. The intent of the release is to inform the public of the survey programs and to solicit their input in the identification of historic resources. In addition to this, communication will be established with the local historians and historical societies detailing our intent and welcoming their possible input. Included in this communication will be information concerning the thematic topics and the time frame of the survey. The final task of pre-field activity will be the precautionary attempts to eliminate public suspicion. The justifiable suspicion aroused by survey activities will potentially be eliminated through the listing of survey vehicles and personnel with local police departments and county sheriff patrols. (For examples of typical communications, see Appendix D.)

Field Activities—General:

The first step prior to embarking on the survey would be the assemblage of the necessary documents used during the recording of

identified sites. This includes town plat maps, USGS 7 1/2 minute topographical maps, county road maps, site files, and the preparation of the Historic Overview. The recording of a county's significant sites would be conducted during the reconnaissance survey and would consist of identifying structures, mapping locations, architectural descriptions, and photographic documentation. Any supplemental field notes derived from observations or public communications will also be added.

The reconnaissance photography would consist of two photographs per site from opposite 45 degree angles using a wide angle perspective correcting lens. In certain cases, additional photographs of the more significant structures will be recorded showing context, detailing, or construction. Brief descriptions of each site will be recorded to define basic characteristics of the site and aid in map location during the post-survey cataloging. For domestic sites, the supratypological vocabulary developed by The Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee will be used in the description process. Photographic field notes will also be kept concerning the aspect of the image, exposure number, and corresponding roll number. In addition to the recording of the information listed above, further research will be conducted on those sites which are considered to have greater significance.

A primary concept in the documentation of historic buildings is the recognition that different building types may require different recording techniques. Therefore, it is necessary for the surveyor to define the specific types of information most relevant to the typology of the property he is documenting.

4. Reconnaissance Survey Biases

Integrity:

To be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, a property must possess integrity. Integrity is the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic period. If a property retains the physical characteristics it possessed in the past then it has the capacity to convey association with historical patterns or persons,

architectural design, or information about a culture or people. Consequently, the determination of integrity is considered a most important field activity.

For reconnaissance-level documentation, two very basic questions must first be asked. These are:

1. Is the building at least 50 years old?
2. Does it retain its integrity?

The answer to question #1 is usually quite objective; however, the determination of integrity requires some discussion.

It must first be recognized that the degree of integrity exhibited by historic buildings can vary greatly. The principal investigator must first ask, "Does this property reflect its historic character or has it been altered by the application of contemporary building materials and technologies?" In most instances, the house is the first building scrutinized, especially in the case of town surveys where they represent the majority of extant buildings. However, the importance of "house integrity" is diminished when dealing with buildings located in rural settings. For most cases in Nebraska, this means a farmstead. With the added significance of agricultural-related buildings (such as hay, horse and livestock barns, granaries, corn cribs, and elevators), a limited amount of alteration to the house should not prevent the site from being documented. In the case where a farmstead contains a large historic representation of farm buildings with a severely altered house, the site will be documented as a farmstead with a non-contributing house. A final case may exist where a single, highly significant, farm-related building is located within an otherwise altered farmstead. In this event, Save America's Heritage will document the individual building designating a site number solely to the specific building, structure, or object.

Integrity also appears to play an important role in the field documentation of commercial buildings. Traditionally, buildings used for commerce have been adaptively reused by subsequent generations. These buildings are positioned along a primary local thoroughfare or even a regionally important highway, thus lending appeal to present-day retailers seeking new locations. Often the buildings are physically altered to

accommodate new functions and therefore suffer a loss of integrity. With this in mind, only those buildings exhibiting the visual characteristics of their historic period will be documented.

In summary, the determination of integrity will be based upon the historic retention of the following physical characteristics.

- Materials: Does the building retain the original materials from its period of historic importance?
- Location: Is the building placed in its original location or has it been moved?
- Design: Does the building reflect the design aesthetics of its historic period?
- Setting: Does the building reflect a historic "sense of place"? Does the historic image and feel still exist?
- Function: Does the building represent its historic use?

Characteristics of Rural Integrity:

With the concept of Rural Historic Districts added to the National Register process, the principal investigator is forced to develop new visual sensitivities which are sympathetic to the qualities of rural settings. New methods of survey and research must be added to our understanding of both the built and natural environment and the historic relationship between them.

With this in mind, Save America's Heritage will attempt, without contractual obligation, to observe the following characteristics of potential significance to rural historic enclaves.

- The condition and presence of features, natural and built, which relate to a historic period of importance.
- The ability of a rural environment to reflect a sense of a past time or place.
- Potential unifying factors which may link rural properties together.
- The potential significance of historic contexts not preliminarily identified as important to the study area.
- The overall patterns of landscape spatial organization (landforms, natural features, material components).

- Land-use categories and activities (farming, ranching, recreation).
- Response to natural features (landform affect on material components).
- Boundaries (cultural, political, or natural).
- Cluster arrangements (position of material elements within landscape setting).
- Ecological context (Missouri River Valley).
- Integrity: Loss of natural features that were historically integral to the rural setting and intrusion of non-contributing features.
- The presence of sociocultural institutions with association to buildings within the district.(granges, township halls).

5. Anticipated Property Types

Save America's Heritage anticipates the identification of historic properties in each of the following nine categories.

- ECCLESIASTICAL: Churches, church schools, parsonages, and convents
- COMMERCIAL: Banks, liveries, agricultural dealers, hotels, auto dealers, general stores, newspapers, cafes, and grocery stores
- TOWN-RESIDENTIAL: Single family dwellings, high-rise apartment blocks
- RURAL-RESIDENTIAL: Farm houses
- INDUSTRIAL: Utility buildings (electrical, water, telephone) and private manufacturing warehouses
- ENGINEERING: Rail bridges, highway bridges, dams, and tunnels
- AGRICULTURAL: Cattle barns, horse barns, hog barns, hog fences, cattle fences, cellars, cob houses, orchards, windmills, windbreaks, pump systems, cattle loafing sheds, hog loafing sheds, farrowing houses, corn cribs, wash houses, summer kitchens, chicken houses, brooder houses, machine shops, implement sheds, granaries, silos, elevators, and stock tank systems

- TRANSPORTATION: Depots, garages, gas stations, auto dealerships, and roundhouses
- PUBLIC BUILDINGS: Elementary and high schools, post offices, libraries, park structures, courthouses, hospitals, and township halls

6. Evaluation Process and Criteria

Process Of Evaluation:

Two primary reasons exist for the evaluation of the resources documented by the Historic Buildings survey. The first is the identification of properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and the second is the designation of those properties to be preserved by local planning processes. The National Register criterion A, B, C, and D as translated by the Historic Context Reports shall be the basis for evaluation.

The Preliminary Inventory is the primary reference list of all properties within Knox County that are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Therefore, its primary purpose is to define the entire "pool" of historic resources which appear potentially eligible for listing.

The Preliminary Inventory also fulfills additional roles which include its use as a guide for suggesting future work in the study area and the identification of building types which are no longer extant or never existed within the study area. The analysis of the inventoried data may also provide the NeSHPO with answers to the following questions:

1. What percentage of the total number of sites surveyed were worthy of intensive survey on the basis of their association to an identified historic theme or to a preliminarily identified Historic Context?
2. What percentage of the total number of sites surveyed were worthy of intensive survey as non-historic context sites?
3. What percentage of those sites noted during the field survey as potentially significant were actually found to be significant for:

- a. Historic context sites?
- b. Non-historic context sites?

Save America's Heritage originally viewed the assembling of the Preliminary Inventory as a two-step process consisting of survey and review. However, as outlined below, a refined methodology has evolved from previous survey experience which now involves several levels of evaluation. What has emerged is a more in-depth compilation of potential NRHP sites using a variety of historical and contemporary resources.

Initial base list of potentially eligible properties derived from review of reconnaissance survey documentation.

Review of contact sheets and site descriptions performed to add or delete base-list properties.

Review all published county, church, and centennial histories, with particular emphasis on historic building citations of base-list properties.

Contact local historical societies for input on histories of base-list properties.

Second base-list review with application of criterion to derive final lists of sites which:

- a) are strongly recommended for NRHP listing, and
- b) may not be strongly recommended for listing but contribute to the character of the historic built environment.

Criteria For Evaluation:

If the ultimate goal of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey is indeed the identification of properties worthy of National Register listing, then the definitions and criteria established by the NRHP become

the primary concepts by which the significance of a historic property is evaluated.

The National Register defines a historic property as a district, site, building, structure, or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archeology, and culture. A historic context is a broad pattern of historical development in a community or its region, that may be represented by historic resources. The use of historic contexts provides a mechanism for translating the broad National Register criteria into locally meaningful terms. For example, the National Register criteria allow any property that is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past to be regarded as eligible for listing, but it is the historic contexts of the area that define who such people were (p. 55, Nat. Reg. Bulletin, No. 24, V. 5, Dept. of the Interior). With this in mind, the National Register criteria translated into local meaning by the Historic Context Reports are as follows:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

APPENDIX 2

Knox County Supratype Master List

The listing of residential properties surveyed in Knox County utilized the supratype method of description. As illustrated below, this list indicates a total of 98 core supratypes representing the 600 total residential properties documented within the county.

Each supratype is listed according to its five core descriptors which are found at the headings of each column. The core supratype number is found in the first column followed by the descriptors which are, respectively: core shape (SH), horizontal width in units (SZ), wall height in stories (HT), roof type (RF), and orientation (OR). The total number of the supratype is found in the next column (#), followed by the percentage of that type within Knox County (% KX).

<u>S.Type</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SZ#</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>RF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>% KX</u>
S.1	I	.5	1.0	G	La	1	.17
S.2	I	.5	2.0	H	Lo	1	.17
S.3	I	1.0	1.0	H	N	1	.17
S.4	I	1.0	1.5	G	La	1	.17
S.5	I	1.0	1.5	H	N	1	.17
S.6	I	1.0	2.0	H	Lo	1	.17
S.7	I	1.0	2.0	H	N	1	.17
S.8	I	1.5	1.0	HT	N	1	.17
S.9	I	1.5	1.5	G	N	1	.17
S.10	I	1.5	1.5	H	N	1	.17
S.11	I	1.5	2.0	HT	N	3	.50
S.12	I	.5	1.0	H	N	1	.17
S.13	L	.5	1.0	G	Lo	8	1.30
S.14	L	.5	1.5	G	La	2	.33
S.15	L	.5	1.5	G	Lo	7	1.17
S.16	L	1.0	1.0	G	La	1	.17
S.17	L	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	1	.17
S.18	L	1.0	1.5	G	La	2	.33
S.19	L	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	12	2.00
S.20	L	1.5	1.0	H	Lo	1	.17
S.21	L	1.5	1.5	G	La	1	.17
S.22	L	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	2	.33
S.23	L	1.5	2.0	G	Lo	1	.17
S.24	L	1.5	2.0	HT	Lo	1	.17
S.25	L	2.0	1.0	G	La	1	.17

<u>S.Type</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SZ#</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>RF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>% KX</u>
S.26	R	.5	1.0	G	La	14	2.33
S.27	R	.5	1.0	G	Lo	9	1.50
S.28	R	.5	1.5	G	La	9	1.50
S.29	R	.5	1.5	G	Lo	7	1.17
S.30	R	1.0	1.0	G	La	6	1.00
S.31	R	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	12	2.00
S.32	R	1.0	1.0	H	La	2	.33
S.33	R	1.0	1.0	H	Lo	2	.33
S.34	R	1.0	1.0	HT	La	1	.17
S.35	R	1.0	1.0	HT	Lo	2	.33
S.36	R	1.0	1.5	G	La	30	5.00
S.37	R	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	25	4.16
S.38	R	1.0	1.5	HT	La	2	.33
S.39	R	1.0	2.0	G	Lo	1	.17
S.40	R	1.5	1.0	G	La	18	3.00
S.41	R	1.5	1.0	G	Lo	55	9.16
S.42	R	1.5	1.0	GG	La	1	.17
S.43	R	1.5	1.0	GG	Lo	1	.17
S.44	R	1.5	1.0	GJ	La	1	.17
S.45	R	1.5	1.0	GJ	Lo	2	.33
S.46	R	1.5	1.0	H	La	4	.67
S.47	R	1.5	1.0	H	Lo	31	5.17
S.48	R	1.5	1.0	HF	N	1	.17
S.49	R	1.5	1.0	HG	Lo	1	.17
S.50	R	1.5	1.0	HT	La	1	.17
S.51	R	1.5	1.0	HT	Lo	7	1.17
S.52	R	1.5	1.5	G	La	15	2.50
S.53	R	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	29	4.83
S.54	R	1.5	1.5	GG	La	2	.17
S.55	R	1.5	1.5	GG	Lo	1	.17
S.56	R	1.5	1.5	GJ	Lo	1	.17
S.57	R	1.5	1.5	HT	La	4	.67
S.58	R	1.5	2.0	G	La	1	.17
S.59	R	1.5	2.0	G	Lo	2	.33
S.60	R	1.5	2.0	H	La	6	1.00
S.61	R	1.5	2.0	H	Lo	13	2.17
S.62	R	2.0	1.0	G	La	8	1.33
S.63	R	2.0	1.0	G	Lo	3	.50
S.64	R	2.0	1.0	GJ	La	1	.17
S.65	R	2.0	1.0	H	Lo	8	1.33
S.66	R	2.0	1.5	G	La	6	1.00
S.67	R	2.0	1.5	G	Lo	3	.50
S.68	R	2.0	2.0	G	Lo	1	.17
S.69	R	2.0	2.0	H	Lo	8	1.33
S.70	R	2.0	2.0	HT	La	3	.50
S.71	R	2.0	2.0	HT	Lo	2	.33
S.72	R	2.0	2.5	G	La	1	.17
S.73	S	1.0	1.5	G	La	1	.17
S.74	S	1.5	1.0	G	La	1	.17

<u>S.Type</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SZ#</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>RF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>% KX</u>
S.75	S	1.5	1.0	G	La	1	.17
S.76	S	1.5	1.0	GX	N	2	.33
S.77	S	1.5	1.0	H	N	44	7.33
S.78	S	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	1	.17
S.79	S	1.5	1.5	GX	N	9	1.50
S.80	S	1.5	1.5	HT	N	9	1.50
S.81	S	1.5	2.0	H	N	3	.50
S.82	S	2.0	1.0	HT	N	8	1.33
S.83	S	2.0	1.5	GX	N	1	.17
S.84	S	2.0	1.5	H	N	2	.33
S.85	S	2.0	2.0	G	Lo	1	.17
S.86	S	2.0	2.0	HT	N	44	7.33
S.87	S	2.5	2.0	H	N	2	.33
S.88	T	.5	1.0	G	La	1	.17
S.89	T	.5	1.5	G	La	4	.67
S.90	T	.5	1.5	G	Lo	11	1.83
S.91	T	1.0	1.0	G	La	1	.17
S.92	T	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	1	.17
S.93	T	1.0	1.5	G	La	18	3.00
S.94	T	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	14	2.33
S.95	T	1.0	2.0	G	Lo	1	.17
S.96	T	1.5	1.0	GG	Lo	1	.17
S.97	T	1.5	1.5	HT	La	1	.17
S.98	T	2.0	2.0	G	Lo	1	.17

APPENDIX 3

Index of Abbreviations

The following index attempts to explain the abbreviations used by the survey team while recording historic buildings in the eight-county area of the Northeast Nebraska survey project. These abbreviations were developed as a means of expediting the survey recording process. The need for abbreviations was especially necessary in the recording of rural-based historic properties. In these cases, every effort was made to note each building, structure, and object which contributed to the historic character of the property. Many of the abbreviations were developed by the NeSHPO during their former surveys of historic buildings throughout Nebraska. The remaining group of abbreviations were developed by Save America's Heritage with the approval of the NeSHPO. It should be mentioned that these abbreviations were used extensively and were transferred from field notes to the history cards with the approval of the NeSHPO.

Fr.	= Frame	Addn.	= Addition
Br.	= Brick	Cent.	= Central
Conc. blk.	= Concrete block	Enc.	= Enclosed
Frmhse.	= Farmhouse	Att.	= Attached
Frmstd.	= Farmstead	Perpend.	= Perpendicular
Hse.	= House	Symm.	= Symmetrical
S.K.	= Summer kitchen	Lg.	= Large
Ckn. hse.	= Chicken house	G.W.D.	= Gable wall dormer
Gar.	= Garage	E.G.W.D.	= Entry gable wall dormer
Gran.	= Granary	Gab.	= Gable
Carr. barn	= Carriage barn	Drmr.	= Dormer
D.T. gran.	= Drive-thru granary	Outbldg.	= Outbuilding
D.T. crib	= Drive-thru crib	Aban.	= Abandoned
L.S.	= Loafing shed	Det.	= Deteriorated

Hd. hse. = Head house
W.W. fence = Woven wire fence
Bd. fence = Board fence
Fdn. = Foundation
Rf. = Roof
Chim. = Chimney

N.C. = Non-contributing
P.O. = Present owner
Orig. = Original
Cem. = Cemetery
Orn. = Ornamental

